





## Schools get £30m grant for special project

By Lucy Hodges  
Education Correspondent

All except one of the 96 local education authorities in England are to benefit from a special grant scheme worth £30 million. The one authority to get no money is Labour-controlled Hounslow, which put in no bid under the Education Support Grants programme.

The programme enables Sir Keith Joseph, Secretary of State for Education, to direct small sums into what he believes are needy areas of education. Otherwise he can only ask local authorities to spend money.

The money has been deducted from the rate support grant. A total of 360 out of 806 bids were accepted.

The 11 areas to be funded include: maths teaching science in primary schools; pilot projects for records of achievement; pilot projects to improve education in big cities; pilot projects to improve what is taught in rural primary schools; microcomputers for children with special needs; pilot projects to meet the needs of ethnic minorities; and the development of information technology at further education establishments.

The Inner London Education Authority is to receive £1.9 million.

Mrs Nicky Harrison, chairman of the education committee of the Labour-controlled Association of Metropolitan Authorities, complained that central government was imposing its priorities on local education.

## Express fails in injunction claim

Four provincial newspaper groups successfully opposed an application by Express Newspapers in the High Court in London yesterday, seeking to stop them publishing daily letter sequences from *The Daily Express* "Millionaire of the Month" game.

## Double value of Kedleston Hall may threaten preservation

By Geraldine Norman, Sale Room Correspondent

Kedleston Hall, Robert Adam's Derbyshire masterpiece, effectively doubled in price yesterday.

The Trustees of the Kedleston Estate made an application to the courts for guidance on their legal liabilities towards the beneficiaries of the estate of the second Lord Scarsdale, two of whom are minors.

They are looking for the guidance of the courts as to whether the house can be taken over by the nation at a bargain price and if this involves the family in being held liable in later years when the two children reach their majority.

This problem has been brought about by negotiations with the Government over tax liabilities arising from the death of the second Lord Scarsdale in 1977. When the present Lord Scarsdale offered the house, its parkland and important contents to the nation in November 1983, their value was understood to be around £6 million.

Yesterday, Lord Scarsdale's lawyers revealed that the last year's booming art market has pushed the valuation up to around £12 million. The

Government has not yet made an offer.

The new valuation presents the National Heritage Memorial Fund with a problem as it has been keeping aside assets for years for the purchase of Kedleston Hall. The total bill now looks as if it may reach £15 million.

The tax liabilities on the estate amount to around £2 million.

Thus, if the nation agreed to a £12 million valuation, the cancellation of the tax liability would only reduce the bill to £10 million.

It has always been envisaged that the running of Kedleston Hall would be handed over to the National Trust, but this body is not prepared to take it without an endowment. Mr Angus Stirling, director general of the National Trust, said yesterday that an endowment similar to the £4 million for Belton was going to be needed.

Adding, say, a £5 million endowment to a £10 million purchase price, this leaves around £15 million that must be found by the nation.



Appreciating asset: Kedleston Hall, Derbyshire, whose value has risen to about £12 million.

### Rate capping

## Leicester most suitable case

From Craig Seton  
Leicester

Leicester City Council was selected as the most suitable case for rate capping of the 18 authorities named on Tuesday. The Government ordered its rates to be cut by 57 per cent next year, the most of any authority.

The Labour-controlled council does not have the expensive responsibility of social services, education, covered by the county, but was singled out as a notorious high spender.

The Government has indicated it for failure to use about £6 million in reserves to hold down rates; for rate and

spending increases of 67 per cent and 46 per cent respectively, since 1981, and for ever-increasing services, notably, concessionary bus fares, recreation and parks.

Only about one-fifth, £53, of the rates paid by Leicester ratepayers, goes to the city, the rest to the county. This year's rate of 37.5p raised £15 million, but the Government wants that cut to 16.2, saving the average ratepayer about 60p a week.

However, the loss to city hall is £8 million a year. The Government has worked on the assumption that the council has a lower budget than the £29

million it projects, and says that after rate revenue and rate support, the remainder should be found from balances.

The council insists that without using the balances, which it assesses at £5.5 million its overall rate shortfall will be £11 million.

The Labour group meets on Monday to discuss whether to fall in line and make "devastating" cuts of 40 per cent in services and manpower or pass an illegal budget in March.

If cuts are to be made, the areas identified by the Government are likely to be at risk. The Government says Leicester's spending on all services is more per head (£81) compared with under £45 for the shire districts.

This year it has budgeted to spend £6.15 per head on concessionary bus fares for pensioners, the young, and the disabled at a cost of £1.7m. The shire average is £1.84.

Mr Peter Soulsby, the Labour leader, is adamant that there is no fat to be cut in Leicester. "We have been elected with increasing majorities to provide and improve services, not to cut them."

Mr Terry Harris, the Tory leader, said that Leicester city was nothing more than an overblown district council.

Spending per head	Cost on rates
Parks	£12.62
Sports	£4.31
Baths	£5.14
Community Services	£7.25
Arts	£2.50
Entertainment	£1.00
Ethnic minority projects	£1.13
Concessionary fares	£2.20
Housing	£15.50

## Moderate NUM men exempted in court action

By Staff Reporters

The names of four moderates have been dropped from a High Court action by working pitmen to make each member of the executive of the National Union of Mineworkers personally responsible for a £200,000 contempt of court fine.

Evidence from the NUM itself on splits in the leadership meant that not all the 24-strong executive will be held responsible for decision to defy the law.

Those exempted are Mr Trevor Bell, general secretary of COSA, the NUM's white-collar section; Mr Ken Toon, president of the South Derbyshire area; Mr Jack Jones, secretary of the Leicestershire area; and Mr Ted McKay, secretary of the North Wales pitmen.

But Mr Colin Clarke, president of the National Working Miners' Committee, will press ahead with legal moves against the rest of the national executive next Wednesday when the hearing resumes.

Later at the High Court in the Strand, London, Mr Justice Vinelott refused to force two Derbyshire pit officials to repay £1.7 million in union funds spent on the strike.

The judge said he was declining to make the order sought by working miners "in the hope that members will be able to work together in the future for their common benefit within the rules of the union."

Supporters of the NUM hope Mr Justice Vinelott's assessment will influence the adjudication of Mr Justice Scott, who adjourned the case against the national executive.

Mr Justice Vinelott said he saw no immediate advantage in ordering Mr Gordon Butler, Derbyshire secretary, and Mr John Burroughs, area secretary, to pay a sum which could lead to steps to bankrupt them.

The action against the officials had been mounted by Mr Roland Taylor, of Shirebrook colliery, and Mr David Roberts, of Markham colliery, both working miners.

The judge said that an injunction against Mr Butler and Mr Burroughs banning them from spending any more of the area's £2 million assets in furtherance of the strike, should continue until the full trial of the action.

The NUM has begun a High Court action to block attempts by its non-striking Nottingham area to change its rules.

The union yesterday gave the Nottingham area union legal notice of its intention to ask a High Court judge to ban any rule changes on the ground that the changes would be a breach of the contract between the national and area unions.

It is also to seek an injunction barring Nottingham from "altering, amending, rescinding or adding to" its rule book.

The Nottingham NUM has 14 days in which to reply to the notice. Failure to do so could result in the NUM being given judgement in default of defence.

The Nottingham area council is due to meet next Thursday to discuss a rule change which would free it of the need to seek the authority of the national union for important decisions affecting its members, including strikes and overtime bans.



Arm in arm: Mrs Glenys Kinnock, wife of the Labour Party leader, shows off toys donated for the children of striking miners.

At a press conference yesterday, she said the Christmas appeal fund to buy food and toys for the families of striking miners has exceeded the wildest dreams of its organizers. Two weeks after it opened with a goal of £50,000, it has raised more than £263,000.

including a cheque for £100,000 from Mr John Paul Getty II, and contributions are coming in at a rate of £18,000 a day.

But Mrs Kinnock told a press conference at the fund's headquarters in a tiny terrace house in Waterloo, south London: "We still need more money and it is important that the appeal continues".

### The miner's Christmas

## Santa has a foreign accent

As miners' families prepare for Christmas Times reporter Paul Valley tours the coal fields to discover the festive spirit - if any

To the children of striking miners in Kent, Father Christmas will have a distinctly foreign accent. Posters in Dutch, French, Flemish and German, which festoon the walls of the miners' welfare clubs and strike headquarters throughout this most militant of British mining areas, testify to that.

"Believe it or not, this is going to be one of the best Christmases we have ever had. It is going to be great fun," said Cyril Brazier, the National Union of Mineworkers' official in charge of providing food for strikers and their children at the daily soup kitchen in Snowdown miners' welfare club.

It is not difficult to believe him. He is wearing a Tom and Jerry party hat on his grizzled head.

From the kitchen, where strikers' wives are preparing a chicken casserole for 110 months, comes the gentle lilt of a Christmas carol.

A comprehensive Home Office breakdown of criminal offences arising out of the ten month old miners' strike disclosed yesterday there have been 15 charges of arson and three involving explosives.

A total of 9,422 charges have been levelled against 7,314 people in England and Wales between March 13 and December 11. Mr Giles Shaw, Minister of State at the Home Office, told MPs.

Of the 3,903 cases which have been to court, 3,040 resulted in convictions.

In another written Commons

Meanwhile, Joan, the pensioner who supervises the catering, is whizzing around the hall on a tiny bicycle, one of hundreds of toys given by local trade unions so that every striker's child will receive at least one present.

All round gifts lie in piles, but they are dwarfed by stacks of food cartons.

"It's them funny beans again", one miner announced, opening a box to reveal rows of haricots au beurre. Gastronomic horizons are widening in Aylesham.

Gifts of food and clothes, second hand and new, have increased this month by 300 per cent Mr Danny Deary, NUM branch treasurer, said.

Tomorrow, the actress Frances de la Tour and the boxer John Conteh will present

a free cabaret. On Christmas Day there will be a 13th turkey, a plum pudding and perhaps a hamper for every family.

"A real closeness and sense of community has built up here. It will make Christmas special this year, even though there are some things we will not be able to have", Mrs Sue Mountford said.

"There will be no inter-family present", Mr Phillip Sutcliffe, Snowdown NUM vice-chairman said, "but I am determined not to let that upset me. Fortunately my three children, who are nine, 13, and 15, are old enough to understand. It is the parents with younger children who may have problems explaining".

But there are plenty of people determined to make good the deficiency.

Next Leicester coal fields

answer Mr Shaw revealed 1,937 fines have been imposed. About 120 people have received jail sentences and nearly 1,000 have received conditional or absolute discharges, the Home Office added last night.

In Scotland 1,406 people have been arrested in connection with offences arising from the strike.

A breakdown of offences committed in England and Wales and the number of charges is as follows:

● Elections for the seat on the miners' union executive, left vacant after Mr Roy Outley, a craft section moderate resigned over NUM defiance of the law, are to be held before January 15.

Referring to America's economic policy, he said it was principally because of the existence of the massive public deficit that the Americans had managed to overcome their economic difficulties and to create millions of new jobs in the past two years.

He added: "Yet the whole thrust of the British Government's policy is to cut and cut and cut the public service borrowing requirement, which is our equivalent of the US budget deficit."

The judge said Mr Reilly, who had been drinking, acted in a disorderly manner, ran away from an army patrol and that a corporal had shouted "Get him".

Thain had been thinking intelligently, had shouted three times "stop, army, or I'll fire", but the judge said that by his decision and deeds he had not been in a very frightened or emotional state. He had needed a steady hand to bring a rifle with a telescope sight to his eyes and fire through the heart of the deceased.

Thain had not made sure his shot hit its target after the shooting he had run with a colleague to within five yards of the dead man and failed to warn his colleague that the deceased was armed or had attempted to shoot him.

The judge said Thain had not searched for Mr Reilly's weapons, suggested a search should be made and had not explained the man was armed when he was asked by a senior officer what had happened.

"The accused's reticence astonishes me. I am satisfied beyond all reasonable doubt that the reason for the accused failing to give this explanation for his action for so long was that this is a defence which he has since concocted."

Thain was said to have been deeply affected by the death of Private Curtis, a colleague from the same town who was killed in a booby trap bomb. An army witness said that on patrol Thain lacked confidence and that after the death of Private Curtis he had lost more confidence and been upset.

The management's offer, which will protect staff from losses in pay due to shift changes for three years subject to some conditions, was "the best offer that can be achieved and represents a significant victory for the action they have taken". Under civil service rules, earnings from changes in shift patterns are normally protected for only four weeks.

## Sharp drop in number of Ulster killings

By Richard Ford  
Belfast

The number of people who have died violently in Northern Ireland this year, is, at the end of the year, likely to be at the lowest level since the troubles erupted in 1971. Statistics produced two weeks before the year ends show that 62 people have died violently.

The security forces in the province are making no comment fearing that it would encourage terrorists to attempt spectacular outrages. But the figures confirm a trend throughout the year, with deaths and bombings down compared with last year.

However, security sources admit that the terrorists have become more efficient at killing when they compare the rate of death to violent incidents and privately admit there is no cad in sight after 15 years of violence.

The pattern of violence is also changing, with less terrorism in Londonderry and particularly Belfast and attacks hitting vulnerable border areas. Terrorism in border counties is increasingly aimed at locally recruited members of the security forces.

They are soft targets, particularly when off duty, and most vulnerable if they live on isolated farms. Although the figures indicate declining violence one security source said: "We are not crowing over it. We still have a long way to go."

The Provisional IRA has been responsible for 38 deaths in the province this year but the problems facing the organisation are indicated by their operations in Belfast. They have only succeeded in killing four people there this year; one of those was a Roman Catholic "executed" for alleged criminal activities.

Of the four people killed so far in 1984 by the Irish National Liberation Army all died in Belfast but included two of their own members. Informers have provided the security forces with a major breakthrough.

In the North Belfast Ardoyne area violent activity dropped dramatically after conviction of leading IRA terrorists on the word of informer Christopher Black.

The INLA appears to have been particularly hard hit by informers and have so far this year been unable to kill outside Belfast.

The Provisionals have had a number of weapons supply setbacks, particularly with the capture of arms aboard the Marita Anne trawler.

Continued from page 1

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## Richard's farewell swipe at Thatcher

By Tim Jones

In a bitter valedictory address, which he said he had been waiting four years to make, Mr Ivor Richard, the outgoing British member of the European Commission, yesterday launched into a series of detailed criticisms against the British Government.

Mr Richard said he was giving up his post "somewhat involuntarily" and it is generally known that his continued presence in the job was considered by the Prime Minister to be too pro-European.

Mr Richard, a former Labour Party candidate who had responsibility for employment and social affairs, said: "It has been my unhappy experience to see proposal after proposal which I have presented to the Council of Ministers not accepted simply because the British, in total isolation, opposed them."

After citing a whole series of measures brought by Britain sometimes through by British MPs, Mr Richard speaking in Cardiff added: "And because of this obduracy on the part of the

British Government is because of its ideological view that the only way to solve unemployment is to leave it to market forces."

He added: "Thus we have Nigel Lawson claiming that the Government has no role to play in reducing unemployment."

"We also have a government parroting such phrases as 'if people want to work they must price themselves into jobs'."

Mr Richard continued: "I consider this to be an absurd point of view."

Referring to America's economic policy, he said it was principally because of the existence of the massive public deficit that the Americans had managed to overcome their economic difficulties and to create millions of new jobs in the past two years.

He added: "Yet the whole thrust of the British Government's policy is to cut and cut and cut the public service borrowing requirement, which is our equivalent of the US budget deficit."

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PARLIAMENT DECEMBER 14 1984

Sexual harassment • Too many empty houses

## Check on landlords in bed and breakfast accommodation survey

### COMMONS

Mr Ian Gow, Minister for Housing and Construction, announced in the Commons that he had just approved a research project to be carried out by the Department of the Environment and the Housing Research Council.

He made the announcement after hearing graphic descriptions by Mr Roland Boyes (Houghton and Washington, Lab) of how homeless families accommodated in bed and breakfast lodgings and in multiple occupation housing were being subjected to threats of violence, sexual harassment and poor living conditions.

There was, he said, evidence of sexual harassment of women residents by landlords to provide sexual favours in return for a rent reduction or in lieu of eviction when Giro cheques were delayed. This evidence was not merely hearsay; he had written statements he could produce.

Mr Gow said he did not quarrel with some of the descriptions used by Mr Boyes. He had seen some of this accommodation for himself and even as a temporary expedient, it was undesirable.

It was a criminal offence for anyone to turn a tenant out of his or her home without a court order or to use intimidation or violence or to withhold services like gas or electricity. If any tenant considered he was being harassed, he or she should complain to his local authority which had powers to prosecute.

Speaking during the debate initiated by Mr Boyes who called on the Government to introduce legislation to regulate conditions and charges in houses in multiple occupation and to review its latest proposals for board and lodgings payments, Mr Gow said it was a continuing scandal that there should be 25,000 local authority owned houses and flats which had been empty for more than 12 months. If some of these houses and flats could be brought into use, they would make a significant contribution to solving the problems being detailed.

The DOE had completed a study of the problems of the 30 authorities with the highest numbers of long-term empty dwellings.

In taking action on this, he was extending the eligibility for housing association grant to enable local authorities to put local authority dwellings back into use.

They were also making a grant to the empty property unit established by Shelter to further its work in providing advice and information to housing associations and others

about the short-term use of empty property.



# Sharp drop in number of Ulster killings

By Richard Ford Belfast

The number of people killed in the recent wave of violence in Northern Ireland has fallen sharply since the beginning of the year. The Belfast Telegraph reported that the number of deaths in the first nine months of 1984 was 107, compared with 151 in the same period last year. The drop is attributed to a combination of factors, including a decline in sectarian violence and a more effective police response to the remaining threats.

# Novelist jailed for nine months after helping woman commit suicide

Helen Hough, the author of children's books, and murder mysteries was jailed for nine months yesterday for helping a "pathetically ill" old woman to commit suicide. Mrs Hough, aged 60, appeared stunned by the sentence.

The slightly built, silver-haired mother of four daughters, formerly married to the biographer Richard Hough, turned to walk out of the dock at the Central Criminal Court then retraced her steps and was led to the cells.

The Common Sergeant of London, Judge Pigot, said: "I have no desire to punish you but I must consider public policy and deter others, less altruistic than yourself, who might be attempting to accelerate death under different circumstances." A immediate custodial sentence was inevitable because of the gravity of the offence, the judge said.

Hough, a voluntary social worker who had looked after the elderly for many years, pleaded guilty on the third day of her trial to attempting to murder Miss Anita Harding, aged 84, who lived at an old people's home in Fitzroy Road, Regents Park, north London. The jury was directed to find

Hough, of 1507 Street, Camden Town, north London, not guilty of murder.

Miss Harding, a former civil servant, who was almost blind, deaf and crippled by the "agony" of arthritis, was determined to end her life, had contacted Exit, the voluntary euthanasia organization, many times, and had obtained a "suicide manual", the court was told.

In November last year, she persuaded her friend, Hough, to be with her during her final hours. She had made "beautiful" arrangements for suicide, writing every instruction on a large sheet of paper, and putting a red ribbon around a plastic

bag. She had pestered Hough for months to help her.

Hough provided sleeping tablets for Miss Harding.

More than two hours later, realizing she was still alive, Hough, who had been holding her hand, placed the plastic bag over her head.

The judge said Hough was a caring, compassionate, and Christian woman who had tried to talk Miss Harding out of committing suicide, and had given way to the old lady's demands only after anxious and careful consideration.

Mr George Carman, QC, for the defence, said Hough did not want to be linked with Exit. She had acted out of mercy for a pitiful human being and her case was one of the saddest a British jury had to consider.

Hough was a "prisoner of her own promises".

Judge Pigot said that Hough had promised Miss Harding that she would not survive and it was only her complete confession to the police last January that led to her being charged. "What you did, you did with the highest morals. But our law exists to protect the sanctity of life, even if that life is of a person in a coma, on the verge of death."



Mr Mark Syms fells Christmas trees on his Surrey farm. (Photograph: Peter Trivelpy)

# Tree growers on guard for Christmas

By John Young, Agriculture Correspondent

There are now 60 acres, with about 3,000 trees to the acre, and he expects to sell about 20,000 this year, mostly direct to garden centres and shops.

Total sales in Britain are expected to reach about four million trees, of which about one million will be imported, mainly from Belgium, Holland and Scandinavia. More than 95 per cent will be the traditional Norway spruce, although fir and pine are beginning to edge into the market.

Many, though not all, British trees carry labels supplied by the British Christmas Tree Growers' Association.

Those who like to choose their tree on the spot are usually welcome at most Forestry Commission and private plantations.

The association stresses that, in order for trees to stay fresh, they should be treated like house plants, placed in a bowl of water or in soil which is kept regularly watered. If possible, they should be left outdoors until the last minute, and should be kept away from fires or radiators.

# Television attacked over tobacco

By Nicholas Timmins, Social Services Correspondent

The BBC and independent television were accused yesterday of colluding with the tobacco companies to circumvent the ban on cigarette advertising on television.

Studies among 800 school children in Manchester earlier this year showed they were more aware of brands used in television sports sponsorship, and their awareness changed according to which cigarette-linked sports event had most recently been on television.

The study showed clearly that TV sports sponsorship by tobacco manufacturers acts as cigarette advertising to children, and therefore circumvents the law banning cigarette advertisements on television," Dr Frank Ledwith, the research fellow at Manchester University who carried out the research, said yesterday.

The British Medical Association said yesterday that it was seeking meetings with the BBC and the Independent Broadcasting Authority to discuss ways of excluding tobacco brand names from television.

Dr John Dawson, head of the association's professional division said he believed that the

# Labour vow to ban BBC adverts

By Our Political Reporter

Mr Gerald Kaufman, the Shadow Home Secretary, pledged yesterday that the next Labour government would stop BBC advertising if it were introduced under the Conservatives.

Mr Kaufman deplored hints of support for advertising on some BBC radio and television channels given by the Prime Minister on the day the corporation launched its campaign to increase the colour television licence fee to £65.

"Whatever its failings the BBC fulfils an essential role that would be irreparably damaged by the introduction of advertising, a role that must not be subject to overt or covert commercial pressures," he said in a speech to Shrewsbury Labour Party.

It was the existence of BBC standards of quality that had helped the best of the commercial companies to resist lowering their own standards.

Viewers and listeners who found commercial interruptions offensive had the right to enjoy broadcasting free of them.

# Skiers in switch to find snow

By Richard Dowden

A travel company has switched two aircraft loads of hopeful skiers from Austria to France in the search for snow in the Alps, which has been scarce so far this year.

Apart from a few resorts and the glaciers which offer all-year-round skiing, there is little more than a sprinkle of snow in the Alps, and if this does not improve thousands of holiday-makers who will head for the Alps for Christmas will have to make the Apres Ski last all day.

The Meteorological Office in London said yesterday that winds in southern Europe had been southerly and that any snow which had fallen was high up and melted quickly in the warm winds.

He said a weakening front approaching across France should bring some snow to the slopes this weekend. Skiers should not panic yet.

Schools Abroad, which specializes in taking schoolchildren skiing, said that about 300 people had been switched from Badgastein and Mulbach in Austria to Puy St Vincent in France yesterday.

Thomson and Neilson holidays said they would bus skiers to slopes where there was snow, if there was none at the resorts where they were staying. If there were no snow at all, clients would be paid a daily compensation. The two companies are expecting to carry about 1,000 holidaymakers each this weekend to the Alps and about 3,000 a week over Christmas.

Austria seems to be worst off. The Tourist Office in London said it usually receives snow reports regularly at this time of year but there had been silence from Austria so far. Only at Lech, Zurs, St Anton and Obergurgl was there enough snow for skiing.

In Switzerland only the glaciers could be used for skiing at the moment, a spokesman for the Tourist Office said, but it was improving.

Only France has had some snow, in the Maritime Alps, but there is still no skiing at most of the leading resorts, except for La Plagne and Isola 2000.

Several important international skiing events have already been cancelled through lack of snow, including the Premier Neige at Val d'Isere. Off piste rewards, page 10

# Doctors find womb scans safe

By Nicholas Timmins, Social Services Correspondent

There is enough evidence that ultrasound scanning of the womb in pregnancy is safe for it to continue to be used routinely by the Royal College of Obstetricians and Gynaecologists said yesterday.

The Department of Health should withdraw its recent advice to health authorities not to offer scanning as a routine procedure. The scans offer "very real benefits", according to Professor Stuart Campbell, chairman of the college's working party on ultrasound, whose report was published yesterday.

The scans allowed doctors to establish accurately the age of the foetus, to spot babies with retarded growth, to diagnose twins early, so reducing their greater risk of death, and to spot abnormalities. "The vast majority of which would never be discovered without ultrasound", the report said.

That could allow abortions if the defects were serious, or in some cases operations either in the womb or immediately after birth to correct or alleviate the condition.

"Ultrasound has played a very important part in improving the chances of a mother having a live baby", Professor Campbell said.

The college says that after a thorough review of the literature on scans, which have been in use for 20 years, "no substantial evidence has been produced that diagnostic ultrasound may be harmful".

In October Mr John Patten, Under Secretary of State at the Department of Health and Social Security, said that hospitals should not offer scans routinely. Laboratory tests in the United States suggested ultrasound could damage cells. A World Health Organization committee has also advised against routine scanning, and Mr Patten has asked the Medical Research Council to review its safety.

But the college said others had not been able to reproduce the American results.

The college says that mothers should clearly not be persuaded into having routine scans against their will, even though it supports their continued use. Mothers should understand what was involved. Standards of training should be raised and a senior doctor should take charge of regular scanning sessions to raise the accuracy of scans.

A new standard for the intensity of ultrasound beams should be established.

# Austin parts 'far cheaper' than rivals

By Clifford Webb Motoring Correspondent

Spare parts for two of the most popular Japanese cars sold in Britain are more than 50 per cent more expensive than their Austin Rover equivalents, according to the latest survey of the cost of motoring by the Automobile Association.

Twenty parts most frequently required in the first five years of a car's life cost £692.39 for the Austin Maestro, £1,058.30 for the Nissan Stanza and £1,069.23 for the Toyota Carina.

Maestro spares were the cheapest of the eight popular British European and Japanese 1.6 litre family saloons in the survey. But Ford's Sierra cost only 12p more.

Another BL car, the Austin Montego, was third, followed by the Vauxhall Cavalier, Renault 18 TS, VW Jetta, Nissan Stanza and Toyota Carina.

This independent confirmation of Austin Rover's claim that its cars are cheaper to run than its rivals should boost sales to fleet owners who are particularly impressed by replacement costs. The Montego, in particular, is aimed at this market.

The Japanese still import too many spare parts which could be obtained cheaper in this country.

# MPs oppose VAT charge on famine aid record

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

The Government came under mounting pressure yesterday from Conservative MPs to make an exception and not to levy value-added tax on the sales of the pop records made by several groups to raise money for Ethiopian famine relief.

Mr Robert Rhodes James, the Conservative MP for Cambridge, will be among a delegation organized by Mr Anthony Blair, Labour MP for Sedgfield, and including members of the groups who will see Mr Nigel Lawson, the Chancellor of the Exchequer next week to urge him to ensure that the VAT revenues from the record, "Don't They Know It's Christmas", go to famine relief.

Meanwhile Mr Neil Kinnock, the Labour leader, wrote to the Prime Minister saying that the Government could ensure that the good intentions of those

# Grand Hotel repair plan unveiled

By Charles Kneivitt Architecture Correspondent

The Grand Hotel in Brighton, badly damaged in the IRA bomb attack on the Cabinet in October, is to be rebuilt at a cost of £2.5 million. Work is expected to start early next year and be completed in June 1986. Clearing up work has just been finished. The De Vere Group, part of Greenhall Whitley, owners of the Grand since August, will meet next month to consider the options for its reconstruction.

The seafront elevation of the 150-room hotel, a Grade II listed building, will be restored to its original design. Some new facilities, such as a swimming pool, may be added.

The hotel was built in the Italian Renaissance style and opened in 1864. It was criticized for being "not Anglican" and as a "Cyclopean pile". It was one of the first hotels in the country with electric lighting and lifts and among the grandest of its day.

The strength of the building withstood the bomb attack well. A similar bomb in a modern, lightweight constructed building would have resulted in far greater damage and loss of life.

The report of the police investigation into security at the Grand before the bombing has been passed to the Chief Constable of Sussex.

It is understood to recommend providing ministers with accommodation away from party conferences. The report will be sent to Mr Leon Brittan, the Home Secretary and is expected to be discussed publicly by the Sussex police authority early next year.



Vote of thanks: Mr Michael Portillo, Conservative victor in the Enfield Southgate by-election, with his wife Carolyn touring the constituency (Photograph: Bill Warhurst).

# Man loses fight to remain in 2-bedroom flat

Mr Eric French, who lives alone in a two-bedroom council flat in Masefield Crescent, Southgate, north London, has been forced to give up his home for a needy family.

Yesterday High Court judges dismissed his appeal against a possession order from the Borough of Enfield. Neighbours had signed a petition saying he should be allowed to stay. But the council has decided that he must move to a single-bedroom flat because his old home is under-occupied.

Lord Justice Stephenson, sitting with Lord Justice Robert Goff, described it as a very sad case brought about by the housing shortage in London.

He ruled that a county court order made in November last year was lawful.

# Zoo to woo visitors with £8m grant

By Tony Samstag

Much of the present financial year's grant will be needed to pay off the zoo's overdraft, which is approaching £2 million. After that, the zoo sees a series of projects stretching over about 15 years.

"It will not be difficult to spend the money", Mr John Boyer, chief executive of the Zoological Society of London said. "But we have a lot to demolish before we can start putting anything up."

At Regent's Park, work is to start almost immediately on demolition of the old birds of prey aviary and the education block, where a new aquarium is to be built. The parrot and ostrich houses, eastern aviaries

# Chain stolen

The sheriff of Norwich's official gold chain of office, valued at more than £9,000, was stolen from the Lord Mayor's Daimler yesterday.

# Longer life for motorways will cut delays

Motorway delays will be reduced over the next decade, Mrs Lynda Chalker, Minister of State for Transport, announced yesterday that the department will increase the structural strength of new motorways to give them a life of 20 years, instead of 10 to 15 years, before big repairs are needed.

Mrs Chalker told the Institution of Highway Engineers and Transport in London that the capital cost of a bituminous motorway would rise by between 10 and 15 per cent, about £2 million a mile, and save perhaps 50 per cent on maintenance over a road's life.

With trunk road maintenance totalling £20 million a year, nearly half the £450 million spent on new construction, large savings are expected if reduced delays to road-users are considered. They could amount to about 15 per cent of the cost of the programme, more than £50 million a year.

Delays on motorways have increased steadily over the past two to three years as the first generation of motorways built in the 1960s crumble earlier than expected, partly because of heavier lorry traffic then predicted.

Mrs Chalker also said consultants were to assess the future of the Dartford tunnel.

# Teacher 'set up shop offering drugs to order'

Mr Richard Catherwood, a London schoolteacher, was accused of running a drugs shop in which, if an item was "not in stock, you could order it and come back another day", a judge said yesterday.

Summing up at the start of the fifth day of Catherwood's trial at the Inner London Crown Court, Judge Suzanne Norwood said the prosecutor claimed that everything was on offer to drug users at his south London flat.

Catherwood, of Melbourne Grove, East Dulwich, south-east London, has denied six charges including supplying and offering to supply LSD, cocaine and cannabis resin, and possessing controlled drugs with intent to supply.

He has admitted three charges of supplying cannabis resin and unlawfully possessing LSD and cannabis.

On Wednesday he was cleared of one of the charges, supplying cannabis resin.

The court has been told Lee Sawyer, aged 16, fell to his death from a block of flats in East Dulwich and was found to have taken LSD shortly before the incident. It has been alleged Catherwood supplied the drug.

After nearly three hours of summing-up, the judge said she would send out the jury to consider their verdict on Monday.

# Two sentenced

Police Constable Lance Perks, aged 32, of Nightingale Lane, Clapham London, was jailed for 18 months at the Central Criminal Court yesterday and Patrick Cummins, aged 53, of Stenhold Avenue, Stratford, a warden of a police hostel, was sentenced to nine months and banned for a year for reckless driving. Both were convicted of conspiring to pervert justice.

# 'Coke' clothes

The Coca-Cola company has agreed a deal with Murjan Industries of Hong Kong to make belts, buttons and zips for sports and casual wear to be marketed as "Coca Cola Clothes".

# Terror suspect

Special Branch officers were yesterday questioning a man held under the Prevention of Terrorism Act at Paddington Green police station, north London.

# 'Legion' death

Mr Robert Sutton, aged 61, of Ford, Bootle, Merseyside, died in Walton Hospital, Liverpool yesterday after contracting legionnaires' disease. He had been admitted three weeks ago after returning from Spain with a perforated ulcer.

# Wife in IBM chief death case discharged

Mrs Yvanoula Robertson, aged 37, of Salters Lane, Hayling Island, Hampshire, was discharged yesterday by magistrates at Havant, Hampshire, when she appeared accused of soliciting Timothy John Smith to murder her husband, an IBM executive, Mr Michael Robertson.

Mrs Robertson left the court without saying anything and her solicitor, Mr William Meads, said: "She has no statement to make at all."

Later, Smith, aged 41, the Robertsons' family gardener of The Scafront, Hayling Island, was sent for trial at Winchester Crown Court accused of the murder of Mr Robertson.

Smith appeared in the dock with David Stacey, aged 37, of East Stoke Avenue, Hayling Island, who was accused of perverting the course of justice. Stacey was also sent for trial, on bail, to Winchester Crown Court.

# Airbase damage charges

Six people were sent for trial yesterday charged with conspiring to commit criminal damage at two air bases in Cambridgeshire. Peterborough magistrates were told that the protesters were said to have made regular incursions into Alconbury and Molesworth bases.

Paul Briggs, aged 19; Sybil Snake, aged 23; Veronica Dignam, aged 19; and Corrie McLaughlin, aged 24, all of Hockley Close, Newtown, Birmingham; Paul Rudolph, aged 19, of Pittmilly Road, Drumlachell, Glasgow; and Philip Hudson, aged 20, of Hinchcliffe, Orton, Goldhay, Peterborough, were all bailed.



## East-West dialogue resumes

## Howe says patient talks with Russia must go on from here to eternity

From Ian Murray, Brussels

There is a need for patient, sustained dialogue with the Soviet Union "from here to eternity", Sir Geoffrey Howe, the Foreign Secretary, said yesterday after the winter meeting of Nato's foreign ministers in Brussels.

East-West relations had dominated the two-day session, especially preparations for next month's meeting in Geneva between Mr George Shultz, the American Secretary of State, and Mr Andrei Gromyko, the Soviet Foreign Minister.

Mr Shultz promised his European allies the fullest possible consultation on what happened in Geneva and afterwards. The European countries were agreed that they could jointly help to create the right atmosphere for any future arms control talks by maintaining a constant dialogue on the broad front with the Soviet Union.

Generally the agreement was that the United States had to be left to negotiate arms controls, but that other alliance members should extend their contacts at every level with Warsaw pact countries.

As far as the Geneva talks were concerned, no one would go beyond the hope that these would lead to other talks on arms control. The Soviet Union was not expected to want to resume these in the same form as before, with separate negotiations on medium-range and strategic nuclear weapons.

Mr Shultz promised, however, that medium-range weapons would be involved in any arms control negotiations.

The final communiqué, the first produced since Lord Carrington became Secretary-General was a new, streamlined version, pruned to just 2½ pages.

The communiqué insisted that if no concrete negotiated result emerged, the deployment of cruise and Pershing (2) missiles would proceed, as planned. Neither Belgium nor Holland demurred from this, even if both Denmark and Greece put in a reserve. This indicates that Mr Shultz has succeeded in persuading the Dutch and Belgian ministers, of the importance of keeping to their promise to allow cruise missiles to be deployed in their countries.

"We have got to maintain, and will maintain, unity," Lord Carrington said at the end of the meeting. He was particularly pleased with the way in which there had been the fullest exchange of views. "This qualified as consultation in the best sense of the word. Ministers have left this meeting feeling they have participated in one of the best aspects of the alliance."

He felt, too, that if arms control talks remained a subject for negotiation between the two superpowers "there are wider issues in which Europe can help".

Geoffrey, too, insisted on this point. The Geneva talks were only "the beginning of the

beginning", he said. Nobody should expect any quick results and there had to be a ceaseless effort of dialogue on the broadest of fronts.

STOCKHOLM: The Soviet Union attacked what it called the growth of revanchist forces in West Germany as the European Disarmament Conference completed its first year yesterday (Reuters reports).

Delegates from Nato countries expressed disappointment at the Soviet criticism, saying it had spoiled the generally good atmosphere at the conference since it agreed on a new working structure 10 days ago.

Mr Oleg Grinevsky, the Soviet Ambassador, said in his closing speech that his country "could not remain indifferent to a phenomenon which in effect disputes the existing frontiers between the European states which have taken shape after the Second World War."

"Revanchist forces in the Federal Republic of Germany play a major and substantial role in the political life of that country," he told reporters.

The term "revanchism" is used in Eastern Europe to mean the desire to expand West Germany's borders in violation of treaties between Bonn and Warsaw pact countries.

The 35-nation Stockholm conference, which began last January with a mandate to reduce the risk of war in Europe, ended its fourth session yesterday and will adjourn until January 29.

Mr Yitzhak Rabin, Israel's Defence Minister, said: "Today, what we face in Lebanon is a Shia-Israeli war rather than a PLO-Israeli war, and I would like to avoid it."

In diplomatic circles, there are fears that Israel's new policy could threaten the fragile troop withdrawal talks at Naqura in southern Lebanon, which have so far achieved no progress.

A session due to begin four hours after the military operation was launched had to be postponed because wintry weather grounded UN helicopters due to fly Lebanese delegates from Beirut. They cannot travel by road because of the security situation.

Questioned about the possible effect on the talks of the security clamp-down, Mr Rabin said: "I clearly distinguished our wish, our desire, to find a political solution, and the need to cope effectively with the many attempts on our soldiers."

Defending the operation, which provoked Lebanon's Prime Minister, Mr Rashid Karami, to describe Israel as "behaving like a wolf", Mr Rabin said: "What has been done was a military operation



Gesture of despair: A Lebanese woman raises her arms in a graphic gesture as she protests over Israeli Army security operations in her village and in six others during which three villagers were killed.

## Revenge calls against Israeli raiders

From Christopher Walker, Tel Aviv

In severe weather conditions, and without prior announcement, the Israeli Army has started a security clamp-down against suspected Shia Muslim extremists in southern Lebanon regarded by military observers as the most drastic since the 1982 invasion.

A strike has been called throughout the region today in protest against the sweep, which began before dawn on Thursday when a large armoured force sealed off seven villages around Tyre and arrested at least 40 suspects from lists drawn up by Israeli intelligence.

Yesterday sit-down protests were reported in many mosques in southern Lebanon, and the Israeli swoop was condemned by Egypt, which is demanding an Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon as a condition for the planned summit conference between President Hosni Mubarak and Mr Shimon Peres, Israel's Prime Minister.

During the operation, which UN soldiers were barred from observing, a 14-year-old Lebanese girl was killed and the troops fired in the air several times to disperse hostile crowds. UN sources claimed there had been an exchange of fire between Israeli troops and a French unit of Unifil, the Interim Force in Lebanon.

Reports yesterday spoke of heightened tension, with Shia Muslim leaders calling for revenge against Israeli forces whose main target seems to have been supporters of the Shia Amal organization. Military sources claim that large quantities of weapons have been seized.

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to bring about more security to our forces."

BEIRUT (AP): Mr Karami yesterday instructed his Ambassador at the United Nations, Mr Rashid Fakhoury, to protest to the Security Council about Israel's "atrocities" in the sweep against villages in southern Lebanon.

The announcement came as masked motorcycle gunmen shot and killed a senior Druse Army officer and his aide on a busy Beirut street, and Christian and Druse militiamen battled with artillery in the Kharrub mountains north of the Israeli occupation zone, breaking a truce.

The Druse officer, Lieutenant Colonel Adel Abu Rabin, was hit at least 35 times as machine-gun bullets swept his Land Rover. He was commander of a 6th Brigade battalion stationed along the "green line" dividing Beirut into Christian and Muslim sectors.

## Round-world week for Thatcher

By Henry Stanhope, Diplomatic Correspondent

Mrs Margaret Thatcher starts one of the busiest weeks of her premiership today, during which she will hold talks with three world leaders in different parts of the globe.

They begin in London with the arrival today of Mr Mikhail Gorbachev, Number Two in the Soviet Communist Party hierarchy, who will be at Chequers for lunch and extensive discussions with the Prime Minister tomorrow.

On Monday, she leaves for Peking, to sign the Anglo-Chinese agreement on Hong Kong, later in the week she will meet Chinese leaders while there, including Mr Deng Xiaoping.

Mr Thatcher will complete a week in which she will spend more than 50 hours in the air by stopping off at Washington on her return, first for a breakfast meeting with Vice-President George Bush, and then for a tête-à-tête with President Reagan at his official country retreat at Camp David.

East-West relations and the forthcoming meeting in Geneva between Mr George Shultz, the US Secretary of State, and Mr Andrei Gromyko, the Soviet Foreign Minister, will dominate discussions in London and Washington. While in Peking, however, the Prime Minister will also want to encourage more Anglo-Chinese trade, now

running at about £300 million a year in each direction.

Meanwhile, the Foreign and Commonwealth Office announced last night that Sir Geoffrey Howe is to make a five-day stop tour of Romania, Bulgaria and Turkey in February. It will be the first time that a British Foreign Secretary has been to Bulgaria for more than 100 years.

The visit is of interest in the context of the increasing contact between Britain and countries in the eastern block. Sir Geoffrey will be in Romania on February 9-10, Bulgaria on February 10-11, and Turkey on February 11-13.

## Refugees in embassy start a fast

From Michael Bunyon

Forty of the 68 East German still in the West German Embassy in Prague yesterday began a hunger strike to back up their demands for exit visas to the GDR.

Bonn sent Herr Ludwig Rehlinger, the State Secretary in the Ministry of Inner-German Relations, to Prague to dissuade the desperate would-be emigrants from this step, but without success. Herr Peter Boenish, the Government spokesman, yesterday officially regretted the strike.

Chancellor Helmut Kohl, has written to the refugees, many of whom have been more than two months in the embassy and emphasized Bonn's efforts to negotiate a solution with East Berlin. But Bonn says they must all first return to East Germany, where they have been promised immunity from punishment.

The Government announced yesterday that altogether 347 East Germans have tried to emigrate to the West by fleeing into the Prague Embassy this year. The issue will probably be raised in talks Herr Hans-Dietrich Genscher, the Foreign Minister, will have in Prague next week.

Herr Genscher is not to take any journalists as part of his party for his visit to Czechoslovakia.

Bonn is thus hoping to avert a repetition of last month's fiasco at the last minute, when Herr Genscher cancelled a trip to Poland because a journalist due to accompany him was refused a visa.

## Israel envoy vents his anger at Greens MEP

From Our Own Correspondent, Bonn

Israel's ambassador in Bonn has sharply attacked what he sees as a "Jews out" policy of the Greens party after its inclusion in a delegation visiting the Middle East of a Member of the European Parliament convicted in Israel of arms smuggling.

Frau Brigitte Heinrichs, a 43-year-old Greens MEP, was jailed in 1980 for 21 months for importing weapons and explosives for terrorists. She is among six delegates who leave on Sunday for Lebanon, Syria, Jordan and Israel.

The Greens plan to meet Palestine Liberation Organization leaders and also want to talk with Israeli Government officials. The delegation has distanced itself, however, from a controversial party paper on the Middle East.

Mr Yitzhak Ben Ari, the Israeli ambassador in Bonn, said the Greens had a policy of "Juden raus" - the phrase used in Nazi Germany.

Although Mr Reagan has made no final decision on the defence budget, he indicated at a Cabinet meeting on Wednesday that he supports a plan by Mr Casper Weinberger, the Defence Secretary, for only modest cuts over the next three years.

The tentative decision by President Reagan to accept cuts in military spending in a decision which had been proposed means that the President is also likely to fall far short of his goal of curbing the deficit in half to \$100 billion by 1988, the senior official said.

Mr Reagan apparently agrees with Mr Weinberger's assertion

## Battle over US arms budget

## Reagan sides with Weinberger

From Bailey Morris, Washington

President Reagan appears to have sided with his Defence Secretary in resisting big cuts in military spending in a decision which may stymie the entire budget-cutting process and lead to a fierce confrontation in Congress a senior official said.

Although Mr Reagan has made no final decision on the defence budget, he indicated at a Cabinet meeting on Wednesday that he supports a plan by Mr Casper Weinberger, the Defence Secretary, for only modest cuts over the next three years.

The tentative decision by President Reagan to accept cuts in military spending in a decision which had been proposed means that the President is also likely to fall far short of his goal of curbing the deficit in half to \$100 billion by 1988, the senior official said.

Mr Reagan apparently agrees with Mr Weinberger's assertion

that cuts in defence spending will send the wrong signals to the Soviet Union on the eve of arms negotiations. Defence officials have stated repeatedly during the difficult budget negotiations that the arms talks are taking place because of American strength and Soviet fears of new United States technology.

The senior official said that Mr Weinberger tried to soften his tough Cabinet presentation in support of the military budget with a footnote suggesting that defence totals could be reduced if Mr Reagan wins an arms reduction agreement from the Russians.

Mr Weinberger's proposal angered other members of the President's budget-cutting "core group" who are in agreement that Mr Reagan's bold effort to reduce Government spending requires balanced cuts in both domestic and defence programmes.

Both Republican leaders in Congress and other Cabinet officials have warned the President that his new budget must pass a "fairness" test in order to stand a chance of passage.

If the Defence Department escapes with only minor cuts while others are being asked to accept "draconian" cuts, it will make it more difficult to reduce the record deficit, "it will make it more difficult to keep the Cabinet in line and impossible to keep Congress in line", the senior official said.

Mr Weinberger proposed cuts in military spending of only \$19 billion in lieu of the \$38 billion which have been proposed over the next three years.

If Mr Reagan agrees, he will either have to give up his goal of halving the deficit by 1988 or find additional revenues through more domestic cuts, which are unlikely to be accepted, or by changing his mind on tax increases.

## Heart man recovering from stroke

From Our Correspondent, Washington

Mr William Schroeder had a restful night following a stroke 18 days after receiving his artificial heart. Doctors said yesterday they were encouraged by signs of recovery.

Dr Allan Lansing, medical director of the Humana Heart Institute in Louisville, Kentucky, told a news conference that Mr Schroeder's right arm was still partially paralyzed. He was trying to speak but was unable to communicate normally.

He could understand those around him and smiled when Dr Lansing joked with him.

Dr Lansing expected him to be out of bed within 48 hours if he continued to improve. He stuck to his estimate that Mr Schroeder could be released from hospital in two to four weeks if his recovery goes well.

Mr Schroeder, aged 52, a retired munitions worker of Jasper, Indiana, suffered the stroke while having supper with his wife, Margaret, on Thursday evening.

He immediately underwent a computerized axial tomography, or CAT, scan of the brain "and this showed us fortunately there was no evidence of haemorrhaging or bleeding."

Dr Lansing said the test ruled out a cerebral haemorrhage as a possible cause.

Dr Lansing said the cause could have been Mr Schroeder's diabetic condition, the coronary artery disease that led to the heart implant, or a blood clot in a valve of the \$15,000 plastic and aluminium heart. It would take seven to 10 days to determine the cause.

Mr Schroeder received the heart on November 25. He is the second recipient of a mechanical heart. The first, Mr Barney Clark, a dentist, lived for 112 days after his surgery two years ago.

## Tax evasion charge for Lambsdorff

Bonn - The West German Bundestag yesterday again lifted the parliamentary immunity on Otto Lambsdorff to allow the public prosecutor to lay an additional charge of tax evasion against the former Economics Minister (Michael Bunyon writes).

Voting with his feet: Mr Alexander Falconer, Labour member of the European Parliament for Mid-Scotland and Fife, is called to order by an usher in Strasbourg for putting his feet on his desk during the vote which threw out the EEC budget.

Parliament has already lifted immunity from him over the charge of corruption in connection with a controversial tax waiver for the Flick group of companies.

The new charge alleges that as treasurer of the Free Democratic Party in North Rhine-Westphalia, Count Lambsdorff illegally helped to fund the party by funneling money through charitable organizations, thus avoiding tax. Count Lambsdorff has denied this and the earlier charge of corruption.

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Devolution offered to Tamils

Colombo (Reuters, AP) - President Jayewardene yesterday announced a plan aimed at easing tension between Sinhalese and Tamils in Sri Lanka by devolving power to local bodies and creating a second legislative chamber.

Tornado havoc

Dallas (Reuters) - A freak string of tornadoes skipped along a 300-mile path from San Antonio to Dallas yesterday, injuring at least 40 people and destroying scores of buildings.

Censors relent

Capt Town (Reuters) - South Africa's official censors have lifted banning orders on books by the presidents of Mozambique, Zambia and Tanzania.

Burning issue

Taipei (Reuters) - Taiwan will draft new laws to protect tigers from the latest craze for tiger meat, the Interior Ministry said.

Correction

European Notebook (December 10) should have described Selby as a deep mine not an opencast pit.

Tenacious Sheriff France finally gets his men

From a Correspondent, New York

Sheriff Johnny France has got his men. Don Nichols and his son, Dan, the mountain men of Montana wanted in connection with a murder and kidnapping, have been arrested.

They are accused of kidnapping and wounding Miss Kari Swenson, aged 23, a member of the United States biathlon team, and the murder of Mr Alan Goldstein, aged 36.

Mr Goldstein stumbled on the Nicholises' camp the day after Miss Swenson disappeared while out running. Don Nichols is said to have told the girl she was going into the mountains to be his son's wife.

When Mr Goldstein found them he was killed by a rifle shot allegedly fired by Don Nichols. Miss Swenson was freed from her chains and the Nicholises fled. Found four hours later by Sheriff France, she is still recovering and suffering nightmares.

Guns seized on eve of key Noumea negotiations

Noumea (APF) - New Caledonian security forces have seized 40 guns after isolated incidents on the eve of weekend talks between the French special envoy and political factions on the future of the French Pacific territory.

At Hienghène, militants of the Kanak Socialist National Liberation Front ransacked 15 houses and two shops.

Security forces seized 30 guns, and ten more were seized about six miles away at Panie. At Yaté in the south, militants set up roadblocks in protest against five arrests for arson and looting.

Meanwhile the special envoy, M Edgard Pisani, is due to begin three days of negotiations today by meeting M Jacques Ladueur, leader of the anti-independence Gaullist Party for Caledonia in the Republic.

Aquino killing witness found

Manila (AP) - Miss Rebecca Quijano, who investigators think may have seen the assassination of the opposition leader Benigno Aquino, has been found by police. Lawyers said yesterday she was willing to testify in the trial of high military officials accused of being involved in the killing.

Miss Quijano, aged 32, is known as "the crying lady" because, according to some reports, she was crying and shouting "They already shot him" before she was led away from journalists at Manila airport minutes after Aquino's killing.

Ali seeks \$50m

Washington (Reuters) - Muhammad Ali, the former world heavyweight boxing champion, has filed a \$50 million (\$42 million) lawsuit arising from his 1967 conviction for evading military call-up during the Vietnam war.

Skipper blamed

Hamburg (AP) - A 66-year-old pleasure boat skipper suffering from partial night blindness bears sole responsibility for the October 2 accident in Hamburg harbour that killed 19 people, including 11 children, maritime authorities ruled.

Hijack alert

Kuwait (AP) - The United States sent a special combat unit to an unidentified Arab nation bordering Iran ready to launch a commando raid to free hostages on the hijacked Kuwaiti airliner at Tehran if they were not released, the newspaper al-Qabas said.

Holiday spree

Vienna (AP) - Austria's Constitutional Court declined to hear a Government complaint against the Governor of Salzburg province for letting stores stay open on the December 8 national holiday.

Prices rocket

Jerusalem (Reuters) - Prices rose by an average 9.5 per cent in Israel last month despite a wage-and-price freeze, keeping annual inflation at around 800 per cent, the Central Bureau of Statistics said.

Tornado havoc

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Bugis Street falls to the Singapore bulldozers

From Stephen Taylor, Singapore

Bulldozers continue to grind through Singapore's picturesque but dilapidated Chinatown where - like everywhere else in the prosperous city state - the handsome, crumbling edifices of the colonial era are being torn down for high-rise developments.

Among the areas most recently forced to submit to progress under the island's all-embracing land acquisition regulations is the once notorious strip of Bugis (pronounced "boogie") Street, which flourished in the 1960s and 1970s as one of Asia's more exotic hotspots.

The delicate-featured creatures then found tripping down the walkways or loitering languidly at drinks stalls were, with few exceptions, not what they seemed - not women at all,

in fact, but (frequently exquisite) transvestites.

Bugis Street developed an international reputation among trans-sexuals, and tourists, too, were drawn to the district, which had a garish appeal in Singapore's increasingly puritanical environment. Like rare species elsewhere, the transvestites were prepared to pose for a fee, and a thriving trade developed around the bars and eating stalls.

When, four years ago, the transvestites were moved on by the police, the street's nightlife was toned down, but it went on. The stallholders continued to serve drinks and fried noodles and tourists still come to wander curiously among fruit barrows.

But now the stallholders, too, have been ordered to pack up, and by the end of the month Bugis Street will be abandoned - the old, shuttered houses

where most local traders live, as well as the stalls below - to the bulldozers.

There are sound municipal reasons why the ramshackle homes of Chinatown need to be replaced. The depredations of the climate have rendered some unsafe; many are uncomfortable, cramped and without proper sewerage; and while the older inhabitants are loath to move, many younger and status-conscious Chinese would rather live in a high-rise Housing Development Board apartment, Singapore's version of the council estate.

The majority of Singaporeans live in infinitely superior conditions to their parents through this housing policy.

But the old homes could have been restored in time to save them, retaining a characteristic and attractive feature of Singapore, as well as its heritage. Only belatedly have city

planners, who appear to be motivated by a pervasive drive towards clean-cut modernity, awakened to the realization that by demolishing Chinatown they are destroying much of Singapore's appeal for tourists.

That is not to say that there are not enclaves where the city of instant condominiums scarcely out of wrappings might hardly exist. Along the back streets the clan associations thrive and the clutter of a mah jong game is heard behind shuttered windows. The passerby glimpses inside flowers, burning incense and a shrine. On the pavements at night, sleepers sprawl oblivious on mats.

But there is more than the simply exotic to recommend Chinatown to the budget-conscious traveller. A clean hotel room here, furnished in rudimentary fashion but including

air-conditioning, can be had for \$11 a night; single in the tourist hotel area of Orchard Road will cost between £70 and £120.

Perhaps the best value of all, though, is to be had at the food stalls all over the island. Ten years ago the stalls were strong out along the streets, which offended the authorities' sense of order as well as the dictates of hygiene.

The stalls have been gathered under covered centres, but the quality of food is undiminished and the price incomparable. A steaming plate of noodles, beansprouts, egg, pork and clams costs just 80p and a dessert consisting of great slices of fresh pineapple, pawpaw, pear and jackfruit, deliciously chilled in ice, is even less. The cleanliness, as everywhere in modern Singapore, is remarkable.

1550



## Americans and Russians both accused by Botha

From Michael Hornsby, Johannesburg

Relations between South Africa and the two Western countries most sympathetic towards the Pretoria Government, the United States and Britain, are the coolest since President Reagan and Mrs Thatcher came to office. Both Washington and London, however, say there has been no fundamental change in their attitude.

Speaking at Stellenbosch University on Thursday night, Mr P W Botha, the South African President, lumped the United States together with the Soviet Union and accused both of "meddling" in Africa for "selfish purposes".

### Correspondent held after mail blunder

Windhoek (AP) - The BBC correspondent for Namibia, Miss Gwen Lister, was arrested yesterday after she disclosed that the South African police had ordered postal officials to intercept her mail.

Miss Lister, aged 31, a South African, said on Thursday that a secret note from the South African CID to the Postmaster-General of Namibia ordering the mail check had been delivered to her home in Cape Town.

In an apparent reference to a claim by President Reagan that American "quiet diplomacy" had helped to secure the recent release of South African political detainees, Mr Botha declared: "No quiet diplomacy, or loud shouting, will keep us from seeking the road of justice with the retention of civilised values for our country and its peoples. We ourselves will take these decisions."

In an interview the same night with the South African Broadcasting Corporation

(SABC), Dr Chester Crocker, the American Assistant Secretary of State for African Affairs, said that "public diplomacy" had never been extended from Washington's policy towards South Africa. "When we think it appropriate, we are going to turn the volume up," he said.

One reason Washington had decided to "strengthen its position" more openly, he said, was that American policy had been distorted deliberately by selective quotation and interpretation by the SABC and other "official media" in South Africa, by which he presumably meant the generally pro-Government Afrikaans press.

The end of the three-month sit-in by three anti-apartheid campaigners in the British Consulate in Durban, has removed one cause of friction between London and Pretoria. But the immediate arrest of two of them on what look like trumped-up treason charges, and the other members of the United Democratic Front opposition movement, has created new difficulties.

Pretoria's retaliatory decision in September to renege on a pledge to return to Britain four South Africans for trial on arms smuggling charges has also left a sour taste, deepening each side's historic distrust of the other's motives.

On the night that Pretoria announced this action, Mr Botha claimed that British refusal to hand over the consulate squatters to the police had violated South Africa's "sovereignty".

None the less, the South African Government is confident that, while it may have to weather more hostile rhetoric, London and Washington will continue to rally to its defence when the chips are down.

## Ban on Pretoria's arms sales backed by UK

From Zoriana Pysariwsky, New York

South Africa has been the target of a two-pronged assault as the United Nations General Assembly and the Security Council adopted measures intended to press Pretoria into abandoning its policy of apartheid.

Britain and the United States joined the consensus in the Security Council, which approved a non-mandatory resolution calling for a ban on arms imports from South Africa although both opposed sweeping economic sanctions in a measure condemning the South Africans.

A mandatory embargo prohibiting arms shipments to

South Africa has been in effect since 1977, but this was the first time that the Council had requested countries not to buy arms from Pretoria. In the assembly, Britain and the US said that economic sanctions would be counter-productive. Britain also strongly protested against a report by the UN special committee against apartheid which accused the British Government of helping to perpetuate South Africa's apartheid system. The report was described by Mr Oliver Miles, the British representative, as inaccurate, slanted and tendentious.

## Hint of trial for deposed President

Dakar, Senegal (AP) - Ex-president Moustapha Koma Ould Haidalla, the former Mauritania President who was overthrown in a coup three days ago, is being held in a military barracks in the capital, Nouakchott, the state radio said in a broadcast monitored here.

Mr Haidalla returned to the capital on Thursday afternoon by plane after attending a French-African summit in Banjul, Gambia. While he was there a military committee headed by Mr Moustapha Ould Sidi-Ahmed Iyad, a former Prime Minister, took power.

The new regime has given no indication what will happen to Mr Haidalla, who had ruled Mauritania since 1980. He has been accused of leading a "regime of waste and corruption" in which he used the nation's policies "to serve his personal interests."

A broadcast said "bad management and blocking of the wheels of state" had caused serious problems for Mauritania. Diplomatic analysts in Dakar said the broadcast of such charges could indicate Mr Haidalla will be put on trial.

The state radio said the country's frontiers and airports were reopened yesterday.

Agence France-Presse reported from Nouakchott that life was normal in the capital yesterday after the curfew had been lifted and borders and airports opened.

## Pyongyang agrees on talks date with Seoul

From David Watts, Tokyo

The on-off economic negotiations between North and South Korea are on again.

Moving from the hard line it adopted after a border shooting incident last month, Pyongyang has now agreed that the second round of economic negotiations should be held on January 17.

The earlier date had been December 5 but the North called the talks off after the incident in which one South Korean, three North Korean soldiers and one American soldier were injured when a

## 43 die in Philippines gun battles

From Keith Dalton, Manila

At least 43 people were killed in three battles between soldiers and communist rebels in the Philippines, while unidentified gunmen shot dead two troops on night patrol near the military headquarters at Zamboanga on Mindanao Island.

The worst of the clashes on Wednesday was on Samar Island, where 27 rebels of the New People's Army (NPA) were killed in a battle which also left five government soldiers injured.

On Mindanao, NPA rebels firing from both sides of a mountain road ambushed a lorry, killing 12 soldiers and wounding 14 others.

The gunbattle lasted two hours until troop reinforcements caused the rebels to withdraw, taking their dead with them. Unconfirmed reports said 12 rebels died.

The two soldiers killed were gunned down on Thursday night by unknown men firing automatic weapons, the state-run Philippine News Agency (PNA) said.

In the first 10 months of this year, clashes between troops and rebels have killed 2,650 people, including 800 soldiers. Military officials also report that 895 NPA men had died.

The upsurge in rebel attacks, often by 200-strong bands of heavily armed men, is causing increasing concern to President Marcos, who was ordered a "no-compromise" crackdown.



This is your life: Frank Sinatra and his youngest daughter, Tina, announcing on Wednesday that Tina will produce a six-hour mini-series with Warner Bros. on her father's life, for CBS Television.

## Madrid police head off shipyard march

From Richard Wigg, Madrid

Angry shipyard workers shouting anti-Government slogans because they had been made redundant were stopped by police here yesterday, as they tried to march on Spain's ruling Socialist Party conference.

In a tense atmosphere, heavily armed police forced the vanguard of the 4,000 workers into a side street after officials at the Industry Ministry had refused to receive a delegation.

The ministry is on the Castellana, only a few hundred yards from the conference. The demonstration was by Communist, Basque and Galician trade unions. The workers, who had travelled in buses and trains to Madrid, carried banners declaring: "Not a single job must go", and shouted insults at S&C Carlos Solchaga, the Industry Minister, who is putting through a programme to restructure the shipyard.

This programme includes a three-year retraining period to

be offered to some 13,400 workers declared redundant at almost full pay. The Government says this will cost 126,000 million (\$610 million).

The demonstration highlights the Government's labour problem. At the conference yesterday, Senor Felipe Gonzalez, the Prime Minister, countered criticism of his economic policies by saying: "I have yet to see an alternative programme for tackling the situation. Our margin for manoeuvre is very limited."

But the conference has

already given 95 per cent vote of approval to the outgoing executive's stewardship over the past three years.

It has yet to vote on specific issues, such as Spain's membership of Nato. A ballot yesterday in the foreign policy committee assured that the Nato issue must come before the full conference, which ends tomorrow, since the left-wingers who want Spain's withdrawal obtained more than 25 per cent backing from delegates.

## US envoy named as rebels' link man in Vietnam plot trial

Ho Chi Minh City (AP) - Under the glare of television lights, the Vietnamese Government yesterday began the trial of 21 men, some of them former officers in the South Vietnamese military, who are accused of plotting to overthrow the Communist regime through espionage, sabotage and armed activities.

The 29-page bill of indictment claimed the accused were backed by Chinese and Thai officials in their five-year effort, and had tried to recruit guerrillas from among Vietnamese refugees in Thai-Cambodia border camps.

It alleged they had clandestine dealings with five Americans at the US Embassy in Bangkok, and identified one diplomat, Donald B. Coleman, a second secretary.

The trial, which is expected to last four to five days, is the largest staged publicly by the Communist Government. Evidently seeking widespread publicity, officials invited more than 20 foreign journalists to the opening session.

The group is alleged to have planned disruptive terror attacks on targets in Ho Chi Minh City, including foreigners, hotels, the airport, a petroleum storage area, and key bridges.

In addition, the group allegedly planned to sink Soviet ships and block the river channel to Saigon, disrupt the economy by dumping counterfeit currency in the country, raid prisons to get reinforcements for its guerrilla army, and bribe Government cadres and police officials.

The Government claims the group planned to murder or kidnap French and Soviet consular officials to create "a strong impact on world opinion".

One of the accused, Mai Van Hanh, a former South Vietnamese air force officer living in exile in France, was said to have made seven trips from Bangkok to confer with other plotters and was responsible for shipping large amounts of arms and other equipment to agents infiltrated into Vietnam.

Another accused, Tran Van Ba, had allegedly told interrogators that "American imperialism" had been in touch with Hanh and with a Thailand-based operative, Le Quoc Tuy.

Le Quoc Tuy was not listed as present in court, and it could not be determined whether the name was an alias for one of the accused, or whether he is alive or dead.

The charges named a senior Thai general named Chavalit, identified as Chief of Staff of Thai Land forces, responsible for intelligence operations, as having been "directly involved in all actions undertaken in Thailand" by Tuy and Hanh.

PEKING: China said yesterday that it was "not worth commenting" on the Vietnamese claim of Chinese involvement in the alleged plot (AP reports).

# WHERE DO WISE MEN SHOP AT CHRISTMAS?

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Aquino killing witness found

Ali seeks \$500

Skipper blamed

Hijack alert

Holiday spree

Prices rocket

Tornado hit

Censors relax

Burning issue

Sheriff Frank gets his men



## SPORTING DIARY

Simon Barnes

### Not out - of print

You cannot be considered a serious cricket fanatic these days unless you have a bookcase given over to a complete set of *Wisden* from the first edition in 1864. Assembling such a collection, however, is neither easy nor cheap. The fashion can be traced back to Tim Rice who paid £700 for a full set in the early 1970s. Now you would expect to pay £12,000, or £200 for a single pre-1950 volume in decent condition. Now David Jenkins, a geography teacher who has started to print facsimile editions of the rarer *Wisdens*. He started with 1885 (£20) followed with 1884 (£22) and at Easter will issue 1886. He plans to publish all the volumes from 1879 to 1890. His first venture was a case of accidental piracy. He was erroneously informed that *Wisden* moved out of copyright 50 years after the editor's death. Not so. *Wisden*, like time, is an ever-rolling stream, and never goes out of copyright. But they at *Wisden*, are scholars and gentlemen and gave permission for Jenkins to carry on.

### And so to Bev

One of the minor pleasures of the university rugby match is the presence of magnificently quadrate-initialled players in the team lists. This week, we had R. H. Q. B. Moon of Cambridge and, according to the news agencies and sponsor handouts, J. S. O. B. Risman. These are not his true initials. It is a rugby joke. S.O.B. stands for Son of Bev. poor Risman is never mentioned in a rugby context without it being pointed out that he is the son of Bev Risman, England and British Lions stand-off in the late 1950s and early '60s and a defector to Rugby League. Bev himself is the Son of Gus, a notable League player. Risman appeared properly as J. M. in the match programme.

### Clean sweep

Robert Maxwell, chairman of Oxford United (also something to do with newspapers) was distressed that the Football League gave out only 12 medals to players after Oxford won the third division championship last season. So he has struck his own medals, and handed them out to every one associated with the achievement. Jim Smith, the manager, has got one. So has 74-year-old Bill Palmer, who sweeps the terraces, and so has laundress Doreen Baker.

### Forward looking

Pelé, fed up with being an over-the-hill footballer, plans to fill the idle hours by becoming president of Brazil. Quite seriously. The backers of the former football master, who is now 44, say: "If he could do for Brazil what he could do with the ball, the country might get somewhere". But, sad to say, opinion polls do not demonstrate the same faith in Pelé's omniscience. Only 26 per cent said they would support him; 69 per cent said they would not.

● The Japanese are adopting human wave tactics for the Open golf championship next summer. They are sending 50 reporters and photographers, and more than 100 radio and television people.

### Sits vac

The troubles of Ibadan Shooting Stars, the splendid Nigerian football team, continue. It was they who were bombarded with itching powder by a hostile crowd during the African Champions Cup semi-final. Last Saturday they played the second leg of the final, against Zamalek of Egypt. They lost 1-0 at home, 3-0 on aggregate. The response was swift and ruthless. Every player and official has been dismissed, with the approval of Colonel Olayinka Popoola, military governor of Western Oyo State.

### Scilly season

I have some shocking news about the state of football in the Scilly Isles. For the first time in the history of Scillonian football, a player has been disciplined by the Cornish Football Association. Hang your head, Duncan Graham, you who were booked for dissent and fined £5. Scillonian football does not run on usual lines. For a start, there is only one club, on St Mary's. The club has two teams, Woolpack Wanderers and Garrison Gunners. They play in a rather small league. Gunners lead, undefeated after six games. Very, very occasionally, Scillonians play outsiders. During the autumn migrations, they played two matches against a team of birdwatchers, drawing one and winning the other.

BARRY FANTONI



'After you with the Top Ten'

# Warnock: ethics undermined

by Immanuel Jakobovits  
Chief Rabbi of Great Britain

Tampering with the innermost mysteries of nature, the building of life itself, may prove of no lesser consequence for the future of the human race than the early, purely scientific experiments which split the atom - resulting, within a few decades, in the most universal threat to human survival in the annals of man.

The Warnock Report on human fertilization is a notable document. In a world widely condemned for its moral indifference and turpitude, it is a refreshing demonstration of the high priority still accorded to moral values in public life. But while approving the general theme and endorsing many of its recommendations, I would be critical of some fundamental shortcomings.

It no longer appears a matter of urgent public policy to safeguard the most essential unit of the social fabric, the family. By expressly dissociating the definition of a "couple" from a legal husband-wife relationship and by legalizing the false entry of AID and IVF children as born to parents who are in fact infertile, the report turns marriage into an acceptable casualty of technological progress.

Another cardinal imperative missing in the report is an overriding insistence on the interests of the child. It is an indefensible violation of rights which should be deemed inalienable to engage in such practices as, for example, the deliberate creation of orphans (by freezing semen, eggs or embryos for possible use after the donor's death); the permanent deception of children about their paternity (by AID and the fraudulent entry of the mother's barren husband as the father); or conceiving children by one mother to be borne by another (as a "surrogate"), with the prospect that both may one day lay conflicting claims to the child.

The report is also flawed by its frequent recourse to arbitrary lines of demarcation between what is to be morally acceptable and criminally culpable. Conflicting views on moral principles cannot be resolved by

compromise or by splitting the difference at some random point. Thus, experimentation on embryos is morally either totally inadmissible, or else it is acceptable for reasons other than being within the 14-day time limit. Mere numbers can never establish or define moral norms.

Professional, parliamentary and public opinion has evidently reserved its most vehement opposition to the recommendations approving experiments on *in vitro* embryos under certain conditions. Of far graver consequence are the recommendations which would legalize and encourage disregard for the sanctity of marriage as the sole legitimate agency for the procreation of human life, and which would seriously violate every child's inalienable rights - as well as the maximum prospect of being raised as a normal, responsible and constructive member of society.

One of the most objectionable statements in the report, because it is of the gravest and most widespread consequence, is the considered refusal to limit access to treatment for infertility to legally married couples. It would constitute an intolerable affront to the most precious element of the Judeo-Christian heritage, and would cause incalculable harm to children deliberately conceived under such circumstances.

Equally abhorrent is the recommendation to legalize the "fiction" permitting the infertile husband of a wife inseminated by a donor to be falsely registered as the child's father and for a similar falsification of the child's natural origin to be made legal in respect of women carrying donated eggs or donated embryos. Such fraudulent registration would throw doubt on the veracity of all birth certificates and thus on the true paternity of all children, since it would never

be known for certain whether a declaration of birth is really truthful or not.

The time to warn against undue haste in the blind pursuit of scientific and technological progress is now. Already it is estimated that we double the sum total of our scientific knowledge every eight years, acquiring as much new knowledge every eight years as mankind has accumulated over all the millennia of human inquiry and discovery in the past. Scientific ingenuity requires an occasional rest for reflection on where we are and where we are likely to be heading.

In the Jewish scale of values every innocent human life is of infinite worth. Infinity cannot be multiplied. Hence, one human being is worth no more and no less than a million others, and we are never justified in sacrificing a single life on the altar of science, even with the prospect that we might thereby save millions in the future.

A further danger looms, and calls for the utmost vigilance. Human life, generated from test-tubes and petri dishes, sustained by artificial foods and drugs, and terminated by unplugging some life-support machine, may be reduced to a form of mechanization in which the incomparable grandeur of the human spirit, the genius of the human mind and the noblest virtues of the human heart are asphyxiated in the exhaust fumes of our technological wonders.

For the proper checks and balances to be devised and operated, more than parliamentary legislation is required, indispensable as this is. Far greater emphasis is needed in raising scientists, doctors and technicians who will be as ethically sensitive as they are professionally competent, and cultivating moral conscience as a factor in the formation of public opinion at least as potent as material ambitions, ideological commitments and political propaganda.

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## Bryan Appleyard on the new tensions in the annual battle for Arts Council funding

### Why the Glory of the Garden has lost its bloom



The Royal Festival Hall: bookings for 1986-87 still being taken by the doomed GLC despite an attempted Arts Council take-over. Below: Lord Gowrie and Sir William Rees-Mogg after early successes their hopes for radical changes look like foundering



management strain, leaving the Arts Council with the rather more ethereal role of national strategy and playing landlord to the South Bank. For Lord Gowrie, the Arts Minister, this all makes perfect sense. It offers the kind of radical, populist right-wing approach that might be expected of him and escapes from the old arts battles between generous Labour and mean Tories. Unfortunately it may not be working.

although it is clear that three regional theatres - not the Royal Exchange - will benefit.

Even on the South Bank there have been embarrassing problems. An attempt by the council to take over bookings for the Royal Festival Hall for the 1986-87 season has foundered: bookings are still being taken by a regime which, by then, should not exist.

But perhaps most significant of all is that the major battle has not yet even begun - the one between the Rees-Mogg faction at the Arts Council and those still clinging to the past. For it is clear that, although the most senior level at Piccadilly is moving more or less in unison, lower down there are problems. Most obviously there is the question of staffing. One East Londoner in the astonishingly long list of outside consultants, the council uses to review its work - is currently charged with reviewing management procedures at head office. Given the devolution/grants policy this can only mean cuts, possibly savage. New jobs may crop up in the regions. But the metropolitan bias of the arts is not simply financial, it is cultural. Moving out to the sticks is not the ambition of most London-based administrators.

Any such proposals will run into deeply entrenched opposition which will mobilize all the old rhetorical formulae: political interference in the arts, freedom of expression and so on.

Sir William's task is to persuade enough people, rightly or wrongly, that his is the only way ahead. A bloody battle fought in defence of the old regime at 105 would wreck anything he may achieve in the way of convincing the Government that the Arts Council is a viable institution.

So far the progress in terms of public relations has been poor. The *Glory of the Garden* strategy has been bogged down and clients are mistrustful. In this context Sir William's words in the latest annual report are significant: "It took about 25 years to bring London to its present position as probably the greatest arts capital in the world, and it will almost certainly take another generation to complete an adequate programme for the rest of Britain." In other words: this is all proving very tricky.

But the strategy is far from lost. Lord Gowrie has clearly signalled faith in the council with the gift of the local authority money and the management of the South Bank. In return he will want to see the kind of radical innovation which will separate him from the long line of arts ministers who have simply moaned about lack of money. A year ago the whole operation may have seemed on the brink of success, now it must be staring failure in the face. Meanwhile the screams of agony will be a seasonal feature for some time to come.

## How Austen came to Texas, and all points north

New York

After years of gentle persuasion, America's literary sensibilities have finally awakened to Jane Austen. Tomorrow "Janeites" throughout the United States and Canada will gather to celebrate the 209th anniversary of her birth. An estimated 1,600 Janeites comprise the Jane Austen Society of North America, which has more than 20 chapters from Florida to Alaska, and does a remarkably brisk business in Austen sweatshirts, bumper stickers and hold-alls.

"It's like coming out of the closet," confided a New York Janeite, writer and real estate expert Edith Lank. In fact, so many closet doors have opened that the *Wall Street Journal* has dubbed the Austen devotees "cultists", and sales of her six novels have surged upwards as the Anglophile fascination prospers.

"Just as everyone can tell you when they lost their virginity, everyone in the society can tell you where they read their first Jane Austen, when it was, who gave it to them, and what the weather was like. I guess it's a moment you never forget," said Mrs Lank.

More than three million copies of

Austen's novels are now in print, and publishers say she is one of their top-selling female writers. Bantam Books, which began publishing Austen's works only three years ago, has already sold well over 500,000 copies and is proposing the ultimate in modern acceptance - putting her works in airport bookshops, long prejudiced in favour of glossy trash.

Lu-Ann Walther, a senior editor at Bantam, said: "There is a hunger in this country for good books, and as modern life becomes more and more complicated, women especially are turning to Jane Austen. It is an escape into orderliness, plus her sharpness of satire and beautiful tranquillising prose. You could equate it to listening to Mozart."



Austen: even in feminist favour

the difference, aside from the style and wit of Austen's writing, is that every character is entirely true."

Curiously, despite Austen's ostensible and feminist outlook - in *Northanger Abbey*, for instance, she advises: "A woman, especially, if she has the misfortune of knowing any thing, should conceal it as well as

she can" - the wrath of the women's movement has been stayed. Lu-Ann Walther submits that women, far from being outraged by Austen's principles, are actually relieved to withdraw into her structured world where male and female roles are so clearly defined. "There is a solace and a perfection in her books that is frequently missing from our lives", she says.

But the Janeites' annual meetings are not always occasions of peace and learning in a cultural desert. "They can become quite violent at times," admitted Edith Lank. "One year, when a speaker said that Mary Crawford (*Mansfield Park*) was the most evil woman in English literature since Lady Macbeth, a man leapt up shouting: 'I have been in love with Mary Crawford these last 20 years, and I urge you to move on to the next topic!'"

Heated discussions may mark the Austen anniversary parties on Sunday, but their success is assured. As playwright Joan Austen Leigh, Jane Austen's great-granddaughter, explained: "You only have to say 'Which is your favourite character?' and you're off."

Sue Mott

Anthony Quinton

## Restoring mind over patter

The Reith lectures began 36 years ago with Bertrand Russell's series *Authority and the Individual*. The idea was that some "acknowledged authority" in a subject should be "invited to undertake some study or original research" on it and "give listeners the results". Russell's, as might have been expected, were elegantly constructed in a flow of forceful and sub-paginated sentences. They were also a bit platitudinous.

Later series have been more stimulating, even provocative. At any rate, the lectures have survived. Their appearance in *The Listener* tends to elicit batches of longest letters and in this respect the recently completed Reith lectures of Professor John Searle, of the University of California at Berkeley, are no exception.

His subject was *Minds, Brains and Science* and, in the simplest possible terms, his position is that neither the aggressively materialistic view of some who practise or admire the new sciences of artificial intelligence and cognitive psychology nor any kind of dualism which seeks to disconnect the mind from physical nature as being something of an utterly different sort is correct.

The mental - the realm of consciousness, meaning, subjectivity - is a part of the physical world; more precisely, it is a feature of a special part of the physical world, namely the brain. Mind is related to the brain, he says, as the solidity of some chunk of stuff is related to the structure of its submicroscopic constituents. Vitalism, the idea that living matter must contain some distinguishing non-physical ingredient because it behaves so differently from the main mass of non-living matter, has simply faded away as we have come to learn more of the detail of how living matter works. It is time, he suggests, to take the same attitude to mind.

So he has no comfort to offer to supernaturalism, that idea of the priority of mind to nature which has always been taken to be essential to a religious conception of the world. On the other hand he is insistent that the mind is not a machine, not even the most sophisticated sort of electronic machine. There are two main sides to this negative claim. The first is that there is only a kind of metaphorical connection between human thinking and the thinking of computers. The second is that because of the way the mental and social aspects of human life are saturated with intentionality, the meaningful use of language and the framing of purposes generally, they can never be explained in terms of neurophysiology; the commonsense accounts we give of what we and other people mean or are up to must always take precedence.

His Chinese room comes in to

establish the first of these points. What it amounts to is that a machine, an artificial intelligence, can transform symbols fed into it into other symbols - indeed it can do so with superhuman rapidity and accuracy - but that does not amount to understanding those symbols. Searle first studied philosophy as a Rhodes scholar at Oxford and has ever since revealed the influence of the late J. L. Austin, the most brilliant and authoritative of Oxford's linguistic philosophers in the first 15 post-war years. Austin once observed that a man stuck with nothing to read but an Arabic dictionary might learn exactly which Arabic words and phrases were synonyms of one another, and so be able to carry out elaborate paraphrases of Arabic texts, without having the slightest idea of what any of the linguistic items he was dealing with meant. Searle's Chinese room is simply a version of that story.

No doubt some champions of artificial intelligence have made overweening claims about the mechanisability of mind. The thinking that machines can now do is not what we call thinking at all; it is just deductive symbol-transformation, which is only a fragment of our thinking processes. Others realize much more is involved in human thinking: the ability to apply words to perceived states of affairs, the use of words for purposes other than the automatic recording of some feature of the environment. To say that the mind is a machine is to say that machines can do a very large range of things and it is by no means certain that they can do the requisite ones. But the fact that symbol-transformation by itself is not thinking does not prove Searle's point, unless he can show that symbol-transformation is all that any machine can do.

Searle's style of presentation is American in an attractive way. He is open and fearless; he makes definite statements in everyday language and his claims are bold and unheeded. Another Austonian characteristic is his devotion to the concrete and familiar. But they are very different thinkers. Austin used the distinction-making skills of an old-fashioned classical scholar to puncture great balloons of abstract philosophical theory. Searle's intellectual surroundings are of a quite different kind, one of the world's largest concentrations of productive scientists and in a country where scientists are altogether less walled up in their specialisms than here. It was a risky enterprise to take on so much in six half-hour lectures but his concern with what is going on at the sharp edge of scientific progress codowed its in many ways traditional of what we call the place of mind in nature with force.

Lord Quinton is President of Trinity College, Oxford.

Woodrow Wyatt

## No surrender to the Tory rebels

Mr Pym gave life to the theory that it is dangerous for a government to have too large a majority. This government's present difficulties with its backbenchers are often ascribed to having too many of them. The theory is shaky.

Mr Attlee had a majority in 1945 over the Conservatives of 180, which compares with today's Conservative majority over Labour of 185. He had no difficulty in containing rebellions. Mr Attlee's troubles began when his majority dropped to 17 over the Conservatives, and five overall, in 1950. The Bevanite split made him feel insecure and was a trigger for the election in October 1951. The following 13 years of Tory rule were conducted with small and large majorities without Tory backbenchers becoming a nuisance.

When Mr Wilson won in 1964 with an overall majority of four he did not escape pressure from backbenchers. Desmond Donnelly and I frightened him so badly that we stopped the nationalization of steel to the lifetime of the Parliament, although it was at the forefront of Labour's policy.

With a large majority of 110 over the Conservatives in 1966 Wilson still did not have an altogether easy ride. It was his backbenchers, egged on by party activists and union leaders, who prevented the trade union reform envisaged in the 1969 White Paper. Sir Alec Douglas-Home announced his surrender to it was inevitable that Labour would lose the 1970 election.

There is no particular evidence pointing to the desirability for a government of having a large or small majority. The evidence points more to the danger to a government of failing before backbenchers manipulated by party activists who claim to be the true repositories of the party's sacred faith.

Whatever they think, such people do not represent the feelings of ordinary members of a party, or of those who vote for it. Normal people do not ardently engage in politics, preferring to use their leisure for more agreeable pursuits. It is mainly cranks who are vocal in constituency parties and who interpret the opinion of their supporters as being that of their own.

The recent fuss over student grants is illustrative. Conservative MPs got threatening letters, telephone calls and visits from their principal supporters, many of whom are generous with cash for party funds. It was a blatant exercise in maintaining unnecessarily large free gifts to the better off. Most of the rest of the country thought Sir Keith Joseph was acting wisely and fairly. Many Tory MPs, especially the new ones, however, were unmoved by the ferocious onslaught from those they thought, probably wrongly,

influential in their constituencies.

I thought the Government mistaken to budge and that Sir Keith had more political sense in wide electoral terms than the protesters. The Government muddled minority special interest opinion with popular opinion. It is a precedent that it should be careful not to follow.

Doctors are enraged because Mr Fowler, Social Services Secretary, is trying to save substantial sums by preventing prescription of proprietary drugs in cases where the generic equivalent is far cheaper and just as efficacious. The doctors are the victims of pressure from the drug companies, which are not above providing them with pleasant perks.

Inexperienced MPs confuse the doctors' indignation with a desire for the best treatment, irrespective of cost, and with public opinion which doctors are believed to influence. Fowler and the Government would be foolish to take any notice. There are large savings to be made by generic prescribing. This government must keep public economy as its lodestar, or it will not be able to achieve much of its ambition to raise tax thresholds, which would give greater incentive and relief to the less well-off.

Conservative backbenchers should bravely tell their natural and more prominent supporters that they have already done well. Before Mrs Thatcher the top rate of income tax was 83 per cent plus 10 per cent surcharge on investment income, bringing a total top imposition of 93 per cent. Now the top rate is 60 per cent and there is no investment surcharge.

Welfare state expenditure includes such items as tax relief for the 13 million pension funds and for mortgages. The cost for other taxpayers of tax relief to the 7 million managed property owners (with their families, well under half the population) is £3,500m a year. The cost of tax relief to those in pension funds is around £3,000m.

Dangeld has already been paid 10 Tory backbenchers over student grants. The Government must remember that whatever the size of its majority it should do what it thinks is right, and can prevail if it has the will for it. Once it begins to look as though it is afraid of its activist backbenchers it will be doomed at the next election.

What is required is a firm and persuasive Chief Whip, armed with advance information of policies which may cause initial disquiet, to soothe and bully the backbenchers. Even with a large majority the discontents out of office are never numerous enough to outweigh ministers, private secretaries and those who still hope for office, and an opposition rarely supports a government's militant activists.





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## MR FOWLER'S BIKE

"The very unequal price of labour which we frequently find in England in places at no great distance from one another is probably owing to the obstruction which the law gives to the poor man who would carry his industry from one parish to another without a certificate."

That was Adam Smith. In the midst of his industrial revolution he judged the way the operation of the poor law prevented the mobility of labour to be economically folly; it was, besides, an "evident violation of natural liberty". And in the midst of what should be our post-industrial revolution, how do our poor laws assist economic transformation? There is before Parliament a measure that recapitulates the Act of Settlement against which Smith railed. It is advanced by Mr Fowler in all sincerity as a means of reining in his social security budget. But in its essence it is a measure suited to a sclerotic nation, a measure to freeze jobs and people. Let Smith's sentiments be our guide in judging it.

Ever since Mr Tebbit made his celebrated remark about labour mobility, based understandably enough on the historical model of the migration in the 1930s to the new industries of the Midlands and South East, the government has equivocated. Had it wanted to undam a flow of labour to the pastures around the new industries and services of the 1980s, it would have to force a collective will through the Whitehall innards. That has not happened.

Policies on, for example,

housing, job training, rate grants just do not mesh. Take town and country planning. Ever since Mr Heseltine's energetic presence was missed at the Department of the Environment there has been (notably from Mr Patrick Jenkin, MP for green belt Woodford) precious little action for development of housing in the favoured areas. And now there comes a proposal from the Department of Health and Social Security that may have a stultifying effect on such small trickle of internal migration as there is. Mr Fowler seeks to discourage the young jobless from moving. Let them be poor and available for work in Merseyside or Strathclyde; the rules are to be changed to prevent them being poor and available for work in Berkshire or Grampian.

There are abuses in the way social security provides for those who move from their habitual place of residence: abuses by the poor, by non-poor cheats and abuses by rack-renting landlords and hoteliers, and not just in Torquay. Certainly the board and lodging payments made to cover the extra costs of living away from a permanent domicile are expensive and have been mounting. But so, too, has joblessness. Mr Fowler, sensibly, proposes to cap the board and lodging payments. But he also proposes severe restrictions on the eligibility of 16 and 17-year-olds outside their home parish. And for all the mobile poor a clock is set ticking. No lodging payments at all are to be made after 28 days of job search.

This is not 1662; the Act of

Settlement is gone. Mr Fowler proposes no compulsory transfers, no repatriation of itinerant Scots (though local DESS offices will undoubtedly consider requests for assistance with train fares back to Glasgow and Liverpool); nor is the government to cut the mobile poor off without a penny when their 28 days are up. They are to get the lowest rate of benefit: the rate, that is, which will barely cover accommodation in a flop-house.

Mr Fowler has promised to safeguard the position of the genuine job seeker. But are his measures (which are administratively complex) strictly necessary? Abuse can be contained by more effective policing of the system. Caps on lodging expenses would move people into lower-cost accommodation. John Howlett, a contemporary of Adam Smith, marvelled at how, despite the poor laws, the young changed their residence. "Were it otherwise," how has it happened that Sheffield, Birmingham and Manchester have increased, from almost mere villages, to populous towns? Mr Fowler should pause, perhaps defer his proposals on board and lodging until his social security review is published in the New Year. He had promised that the effects of the system on employment will be a primary concern of his reforms. Let him, meanwhile, ponder Howlett's remark. In this era the inhabitants of Sheffield and Manchester may themselves be required to venture forth, to work and build elsewhere. Our poor laws must not stop them.

## OPEN THE BUDGET BOX

Many a thrusting young manager or fast-track public servant has had his hopes dashed by the Chancellor's assurance that the Budget will not penalise those who wait to retire until after the end of this financial year. For a time it seemed that Mr Nigel Lawson had devised the perfect policy for the youthful regeneration of Britain's industry and public service, by allowing rumours to circulate about the taxation of pension "lump sums" which were stimulating a top people's scramble for early retirement.

Faced with the threat of a mass exodus from the heights of Britain's private and public sectors, however, Mr Lawson has capitulated. The Prime Minister, too, has joined in the reassurance business: it seems that mortgage tax relief, like the National Health Service, is safe with Mrs Thatcher. And we know more clearly than ever that she is determined to raise income tax thresholds.

Apart from all those heirs apparent to Britain's boardroom

seats, the prime losers from this lifting of the first veil of Budget secrecy are in the City, where smart financial salesmen have always made good business out of pre-Budget rumours. But the real question is what the Treasury has lost, and what it would now lose or gain from talking off a few more layers.

For Treasury ministers' classic defence of Budget secrecy has always been that prior information would enable individuals to arrange their affairs so as to deprive the Government of revenue. Now they seem to be realising that it is lack of information that may cause people to act in undesirable ways. Of course, what all those nervous pensioners do should have realised was that the Chancellor did not have a dog's chance of getting the immediate taxation of lump sums through today's House of Commons. In expressing himself piously against such quasi-retrospective taxation, Mr Lawson was simply bowing with reasonable grace to the inevitable.

But this reflects a deeper truth,

in relation to tax reform: that it is fundamentally unsuited to the tradition of Budget surprises. It is one thing to spring on the public sudden changes in the rates of spending or income taxes; quite another to surprise them with changes in the structure of taxation which affect long-term, even lifetime, decisions. The treatment of savings, including house purchase, are obvious examples.

These kinds of reform need a long lead-time for public digestion of tentative proposals, of the kind now provided by the American Treasury's tax plan. Attempts to fit them into the traditional British Budget box run a double risk. If they are not rumoured abroad before Budget day, an unprepared Parliament may revolt; if they are rumoured in advance, ministers may be trapped into denials that constrain the possibilities of reform. This has now happened on the taxation of child benefit, of mortgage interest, and lump sum pensions. For a radical Chancellor, there has to be a better way to proceed.

## TRAMP IN ASPIC

Call in the Ghostbusters: there is a corpse on the run in Devon. The local environmental health authorities are hot on the trail of the late Edward McKenzie, a former tramp who died six weeks ago aged 72. Allegedly with his consent, Mr Robert Lenkiewicz, a friend of the dead man, arranged for him to be embalmed under a process usually reserved for laboratory specimens, and encased in a transparent block of acrylic "like a paperweight", says Mr Lenkiewicz, who plans eventually to display his friend in his library. But the council, which has statutory powers to take possession of a body if "suitable arrangements" have not been made for its disposal, is treating the affair as a test case and means to take Mr Lenkiewicz (and Mr McKenzie, if he can be traced) to court.

"Suitable in whose eyes?", the judge will have to ask himself. In the eyes of the health inspector, or the next-of-kin, or the man on the Saltash omnibus? Mr McKenzie himself probably has no locus standi, for one ceases to be proprietor of one's own body at the moment of giving up the tenancy of it. Yet common sense suggests that the actual or inferred wish of the deceased should be the decisive factor in the absence of overriding objections. Given that no public health risk is involved (which is apparently not in dispute),

should the law intervene to prevent an individual from surrounding himself with old friends in the privacy of his own home if he wishes? It may be unseemly, but should it be illegal? Other corpses, over which there is far less reason to assume consent, are on public display in many museums, playing their part in arousing an early interest in the past among parties of school-children. The mummified dead are displayed in some parts of Italy. In parts of the world as far apart as Greece, Borneo and Patagonia it is or was the custom to despatch ancestral bones and respectfully clean them from time to time. The physical presence of the dead is something that we are exceptionally uncomfortable with today.

The present case is chiefly distinctive because it concerns a private-sector corpse, which might eventually end up on sale in the Portobello Road, more insistently macabre than the Victorian mourning-rings and hair-bracelets always on sale there, though not greatly different in kind. A corpse still subject to the possibility of being brought and sold, with all the vicissitudes that may go with it, can scarcely be said to have attained the desired condition of being at rest.

The chief English authority on the subject would be in no doubt about the question. Jeremy

Bentham, 150 years after his death, is still to be seen at University College, London, which he is erroneously supposed to have founded. That humourous apostrophe of happiness was much preoccupied with the utilitarian possibilities of the dead, and spent his last days writing a paper called "Autolikon, or the Uses of the Dead to the Living". It sets out to prove that every embalmed, a proposition which has gained little favour either with families or with sculptors. "If a country gentleman have rows of trees leading to his dwelling, the torso of his family might alternate with the trees, copal varnish would protect the face from the effects of rain, a catochoc the habilitations," he suggests with a straight face.

Unlike some philosophers, he followed the consequences of his notions through to the end. He willed his body to be dissected for the benefit of medicine, and what remains (only the head, strictly, is mummified) is preserved in a glass case to this day. He is a public cadaver, and a public-sector one, and the college scrupulously protects him from unseemly vicissitudes. Sometimes he emerges to preside with considerable dignity over the deliberations of the college council, where he allows every member a full hearing, and talks less nonsense than any of them.

pollution is good. UK sulphur-dioxide emissions have fallen by over 30 per cent since 1970 and by 15 per cent since 1980. We share international concern about acid rain, but we are not alone in having reservations about the cost-effectiveness of the EEC proposals for stricter emission standards at large combustion plants such as power stations. Denmark, Greece, Ireland and Italy share the British view. Yours faithfully, BRYAN CASSIDY, Constituency HQ, The Stables, White Cliff Gardens, Blandford, Dorset.

## Acid rain report

From Mr Bryan Cassidy, MEP for Dorset East and Hampshire West (Conservative)

Sir, Though I can normally find myself in complete agreement with Julian Haviland, I am afraid his sources of information let him down in his report on Friday, December 7, "Thatcher defied by Tory MEPs over acid rain directive".

The decision to put out a statement criticising the British Government's position was described in Mr Haviland's report as unanimous. It was not, for one, opposed it and I was not alone.

My reasons were, first, that there is no conclusive scientific evidence that emissions from power stations in the United Kingdom cause the acid rain which is alleged to damage German forests.

Second, I and some of my colleagues would perhaps be more sympathetic to the German Government's wish to reduce atmospheric pollution if a speed limit were to be introduced on to German motorways. This they have resolutely refused to do, regarding it as the sacred right of every German motorist to blast along the autobahn at the maximum possible speed. Britain's record in fighting air

## Boxing promotion and BBC TV

From the Head of Sport, BBC Television

Sir, Your Boxing Correspondent implies in his article printed today (December 13) that television contractual arrangements between the BBC and the boxing promoters Mickey Duff and Mike Barrett prevent the BBC from contracting "boxing contests on the open market outside the Duff/Barrett orbit". That is not the case. The BBC is under no such restraint or obligation, contractually or otherwise. We are free to televise whatever contests we select and can contract, for example, over the past year we have televised four contests featuring Barry McGuigan, staged by Eastwood Promotions in Belfast.

In recent years we have certainly televised more Duff/Barrett promotions than all the rest put together, but this has enabled us to feature extensively the developing careers of eventual British world champions like John Conteh, John Stracey, Jim Watt, Alan Minter, Maurice Hope and Charlie Magri. Yours faithfully, JONATHAN MARTIN, Head of Sport, BBC Television, British Broadcasting Corporation, Kensington House, Richmond Way, W14, December 13.

## Polytechnic inquiry

From Professor David Smith

Sir, In today's issue of *The Times* (December 14) Lady Cox and others suggest that the proposed Inner London Education Authority inquiry into the recent events at the Polytechnic of North London will not be seen as independent. Unfortunately there is the problem that an inquiry set up by the Government might likewise be seen to lack true independence, at least by some of those involved in the dispute.

As Leader of the Opposition on the Inner London Education Authority, may I say that I welcome the appointment of Miss Sheila Browne as chairman of the inquiry which is being set up by the authority, and that I have complete faith in her disinterested and impartiality. Yours faithfully, DAVID SMITH, Members' Lobby, The County Hall, SE1, December 14.

## The plight of Bhopal

From Mr M. R. Deere

Sir, Professor Lee's letter (December 12) suggesting "lessons from the plight of Bhopal" implied that developing countries need to build up an infrastructure of health and safety similar to that of Great Britain. The experience of Bhopal and other disasters that have afflicted Britain and the Western world would indicate that such a proposal cannot be the solution.

Having been a Government factory inspector and a safety consultant to many public companies and similar organisations, I question the validity of this hypothesis. This risk will exist until greater attention is given by employers to the potential risks of their operations, and safety is accorded the same status as the duties of company officers to maximize profits.

This is especially pertinent now that it has been reported that the hazards were highlighted in a safety audit over two years ago at the Bhopal plant. Yours faithfully, MICHAEL DEERE, Horizon, 2 Heather Hills, Stockton Brook, Stoke-on-Trent, Staffordshire, December 12.

## Church polls

From the Right Reverend Dr Oliver Tomkins

Sir, The Director of the Church Society (December 8) likes "simple questions". May I ask him one - "Are you a fundamentalist?"

He answers "Yes", I reply that the Church of England, on the whole, is not. If he replies "No", I ask why he is anxious if there is a diversity of interpretations of Scripture.

If he would rather reply "It all depends on what you mean by 'fundamentalist'", that is precisely the kind of answer we are not allowed to give in such polls.

Yours sincerely, OLIVER TOMKINS, 14 St George's Square, Worcester, December 8.

## Gilbert Kaplan

From Mr Alan Vaughan Williams

Sir, Sally Brompton's intriguing article on Gilbert Kaplan (December 7) gave the strong impression that he was in Britain to conduct the London Symphony Orchestra in Mahler's *Resurrection* only at the Royal Festival Hall on Sunday.

In fact, his London appearance was his second in the UK, on Saturday he led the same orchestra through the same work at the St David's Hall in Cardiff.

It took some courage on the part of a local council to build an international concert hall in a small capital city. It would now be helpful and timely to recognise its enterprise in enabling us to share this rare musical experience with New York, Tokyo and, of course, London.

Yours faithfully, ALAN VAUGHAN WILLIAMS, 92 Nian Road, Roath Park, Cardiff, December 10.

## Unemployed youth without benefit

From Mr Ray Hurst

Sir, Lord Young (January, December 6) and your leader (December 6) both refer to the Beveridge report statement that "for boys and girls there should ideally be no unconditional benefit at all; their enforced abstention from work should be made an occasion of further training". Two points need to be made about the use of this statement to apparently justify possible further restrictions on the right of unemployed young people to claim benefit.

Firstly, the right to receive benefit during a period of unemployment has never been unconditional. It has always been subject to the condition that the claimant at all times is available for and prepared to enter employment. Last year the Government extended this condition to include approved training within the Youth Training Scheme under the terms of the Social Security Act 1975.

Secondly, Lord Young implies ("there are still very many jobs for young people") that 16 and 17-year-olds may deliberately be refusing to enter jobs or training in preference to receiving supplementary benefit. Government statistics suggest otherwise. Currently, 318,000 young people are involved in the Youth Training Scheme, all of whom could qualify for supplementary benefit if they so chose. Also, the latest unemployment figures show that there are now over 600,000 unemployed teenagers in the United Kingdom, excluding those in the Youth Training Scheme, while only 9,700 "real job" vacancies are notified at careers offices for young people, over half of which are in the South.

These statistics should therefore, if examined objectively, clearly

emphasise that insufficient jobs are available for the present number of unemployed teenagers.

This leads to the second point raised by Lord Young, namely, the offer of good training to young people. Where is this good training for unemployed teenagers outside of the Youth Training Scheme, which concentrates on the needs of the current year's school leavers?

The Government's policy of concentrating training resources for other groups on "known employment needs" will mean that older unemployed teenagers will be deprived of opportunities to undertake speculative training, unless they are fortunate to be engaged in the relatively small Community Programme.

Unemployed young people have already borne a disproportionate burden towards achieving what the Government considers to be the necessary economic conditions to create growth in jobs. Until the results of this policy are clearly seen to be working, i.e. by the provision of sufficient jobs to enable school leavers to enter work suitable to their abilities, it would be socially discriminatory, considering recent policy decisions affecting other groups of young people, to reduce still further, or abolish altogether, benefits for unemployed teenagers.

Many of the young unemployed come from households where unemployment is a perpetual problem and where there is already great financial hardship and stress.

Yours faithfully, RAY HURST, Hon Secretary, The Institute of Careers Officers, Careers Office, Fry Street, Middlesbrough, Cleveland, December 10.

## Salisbury car park

From Mr Robert Key, MP for Salisbury (Conservative)

Sir, How tragic that not only has Salisbury Cathedral but that, within months of the proud fitting of our Nobel Laureate, William Golding (whose novel, *The Spire*, gives the intellectual tortures of our cathedral builders) the Salisbury community should be so unnecessarily rent.

It is true that Canon Dunlop's perception of the problem (letter, December 11) is contradicted by the bishop and by many Close residents. But no one questions the need for car parking. We do query the proposed siting of a new coach park - quite different.

Interestingly, the site suggested is the Race Close, so named after the racks of hay provided in that meadow by the dean for the horses of visitors and clergy in days gone by.

The message is clear: the time has come to set aside our squabbles and explore the many constructive suggestions which have emerged during this sorry dispute. Our objectives must be long-term - and would, I hope, include exclusion of coaches from the Close and a resolution not to knock any holes in the Close walls.

## British Council

From Mr Gavin Scott

Sir, I read with interest (December 5) of Captain William Cooper's difficulties in finding engineering texts in the British Council library in Rome. I recently encountered almost precisely the opposite difficulty in the British Council library in Bombay, while making a documentary film. I found row after row of empty shelves which had been cleared of Agatha Christie, Len Deighton and P. G. Wodehouse to make room for such down-to-earth texts as *The Care and Maintenance of Pre-stressed Concrete* and *A Guide to Bee-keeping*.

We were told that this had been done on instructions from the Overseas Development Administration, which wished to ensure that the contents of British Council libraries more closely reflected Britain's practical aid programme to the sub-continent. We examined the library's reports and discovered that there had been "angry scenes" when local clients had realised how they were being misled.

Bearing in mind the long-lasting and subtle influences that literature can have as a means of cultural propaganda, my producer and I wondered if this policy is not too "down to earth" for its own good. But we were chiefly struck by the regrettable fact that the council's financial circumstances are so straitened that choices like this have to be made at all.

The French and the Germans spend between two and three times what we spend on this kind of overseas activity; this has not only (for example) assisted, in my view, in the process by which France and Germany now enjoy closer relations than those between Britain and France, but is also ensuring that the Germans are expanding their influence in America when our official cultural programme there is tiny.

This is to say nothing of the way

the relatively small amounts we allocate to the British Council hamper our competition for influence, especially in the Third World, with the Soviet Union. There is all too much evidence in India that, when it comes to winning "hearts and minds", Britain is losing out to the Russians.

Yours faithfully, GAVIN SCOTT, 19 Mount Ararat Road, Richmond, Surrey.

From Sir Harry Hookway

Sir, Mr Swinson (December 8) claims that the British Council's purchasing policy for their libraries overseas is highly questionable. His own reverence for this sweeping assertion is that some 14 years ago he found a complete history of Test matches between England and Australia on the shelves of the council's library in Tripoli. It makes an amusing anecdote but, of course, casual browsing through any library's collections will throw up a few esoteric or eccentric purchases.

However, my experience as chairman of the British Council's Library Advisory Committee has been that the council's policy, far from being questionable, is highly successful. Some six million books, covering all aspects of British endeavour in the arts, humanities, social sciences, science and technology, are borrowed each year, generating a revenue of over £1 million from an overseas community seeking knowledge of British ideas that is second only in size to the audience for the BBC's World Service.

Yours faithfully, HARRY HOOKWAY, 35 Goldstone Crescent, Hove, East Sussex, December 11.

## Motorway crashes

From Mr G. P. Wilkinson

Sir, We close the motorways after a pile-up. Why not before?

With the onset of a sandstorm and visibility similar to that in our highways, the Saudis close their roads.

Yours faithfully, G. P. WILKINSON, 38 Cuckoo Hill Drive, Pinner, Middlesex, December 12.

safe speed in fog has two drawbacks, apart from cost. The driver's distance from a reflector will depend on which lane he is in and in any case he should be looking straight ahead, not glancing sideways.

But spaced indicators already exist, both for day and night and right in front of the driver - lane lines and cats' eyes. All we need is publicity linking how many you can see with how fast you can safely drive.

Yours faithfully, J. F. DIBBLE, 43 Cross Lane, Cublington, Leamington Spa, Warwickshire, December 13.

## Sunday as day for common sense

From the Chairman of Habitat/Mothercare

Sir, I claim, for the retail trade, that we are the most vigorous and innovative sector of the British economy. We are collectively one of the biggest employers. We are the industry most in touch with the populace.

We are also an industry governed by arcane and archaic legislation. Its maze of arbitrary do's and don'ts provides a source of whimsical entertainment for those so minded: donkey fodder can be bought on a Sunday but not cat food in a tin; fresh cat food is all right: a Boeing 747 can be bought in kit form but not assembled; a story serialised in a magazine is OK, but in a paperback is not, unless bought at a railway bookstall; you can buy a truss but not an athletic support - unless you are at a sportsground, when it is permissible.

After years of this nonsense the Government finally appointed a committee to recommend changes. And so they have Common sense prevailed. The recommendation is unequivocally for removing all controls on shop hours.

The Government response to the report of its own committee seems set to heighten the absurdity: vacillation on making the change, but an unequivocal commitment to enforce the standing law. It may be the pantomime season, but we are not amused.

You claim in your leader column (December 12) that as a "solid burgher" I should behave in a different way from Mr Pate, but, race relations implications aside, we both remain, dear Sir, bemused. TERENCE CONRAN, Chairman, Habitat/Mothercare, plc, The Haul's Building, 196 Tottenham Court Road, W1, December 13.

## Taxing lump sums

From the Chairman of the Life Officers' Association

Sir, Your financial leader (page 21) of December 8 can hardly be correct in suggesting that the pensions lobby appear to be offering tax on lump sums as a sacrificial offering, to persuade the Chancellor not to tax pension contributions or investment returns.

On the contrary, we in the life offices believe that tax-free lump sums are an accepted and valued part of the pensions system. Millions of people have planned their finances in expectation of a tax-free lump sum on retirement and for many of these people it represents their only opportunity of ever having a capital sum.

Lump-sum benefits play an important role in the country's economy by providing start-up capital for new businesses and by facilitating reorganisation of a company's workforce so as to retire older workers and open up new jobs for younger people.

A change in the rules could affect a vast number of people; there are over 11 million employees entitled to a lump sum on retirement, including a very large number of civil servants and employees in the public sector who have no option of taking pension benefits in place of a lump sum.

To tax the lump sums of these people who have planned for their old age, and in many cases entered into financial commitments, in expectation of the lump-sum benefits would be totally inequitable. Yours faithfully, M. H. FIELD, Chairman, Life Officers' Association, Alderman House, Queen Street, EC4, December 10.

## A final fling

From Mr Victor Ross

Sir, Marghanita Laski's article (December 6) reveals a flaw in the OED's definition of *Torschusspanik*. This should read "panic at the thought that a door... may be about to be shut" rather than that "a door has shut".

There is a significant difference: the panic is about squeezing through the shutting door, not about contemplating opportunities irretrievably foreclosed.

This is demonstrated by the typical I am inclined to say, exclusive use of the expression in a sexual context, to describe the alarm of middle-aged persons who believe that the time for sexual conquest is running out. It is during *Torschusspanik* that elderly men are said to chase young girls and mature women's thoughts turn to boys.

Far from being in the OED's sense, a form of desperate resignation, *Torschusspanik* is a great spur to ill-judged action. "Last-fling syndrome" would be a better definition than the wordy one quoted by Miss Laski.

As to *Torschussfreude*, a word she makes up, this now acquires an entirely different meaning - the elation that comes with bolting before the stable door is shut.

Yours faithfully, VICTOR ROSS, Worton Mill, Great Chart, Near Ashford, Kent, December 9.

From Professor E. H. Sondheimer

Sir, With reference to Marghanita Laski's entertaining article, in Germany at least in former, more conventional times - "life's opportunities" meant something quite specific.

*Torschusspanik* was simply the fear of an ageing maiden that she would fail to catch her husband. Alas, the *Torschusspanik* was all too often succeeded by the *Torschusskalastrophe*!

Yours faithfully, E. H. SONDHIMER, 51 Cholmeley Crescent, N6, December 10.















# VALUES

## EATING OUT



# To suit you right down to the ground

Trailing plants are invaluable for disguising the hard edges of a container or greenhouse bench, and they add depth to any arrangement. There is a wide range available, many of which demand different growing conditions, but one of the secrets of success with any indoor plant is to avoid large variations in temperature — that is why heated greenhouses are ideal.

The most suitable temperature range for temperate plants is 55-60°F, and they should not suffer a variation greater than 10°F. The temperature should not drop below 45°F, and it is better to err on the side of warmth than cold — the maximum temperature acceptable is about 75°F.

Some of the plants to consider could include *Ichimenes*, called the hot water plant in allusion to its liking for warm water. It does not trail far, but will fall from the top of the basket to below the base, and flowers well throughout the summer.

Hoyas are lovely trailing plants; they flower well and like nothing better than to be in a hanging basket, away from direct sunlight, in a room or a greenhouse. The best for this situation is *Hoya carnosa*, which, kept well fed and moist, will grow to more than 10ft.

An unusual plant is *Ceropegia Woodii*, which has very thin strands of growth and fleshy, heart-shaped leaves. It flowers in the autumn with tubular, fleshy pink flowers. A temperate plant, it likes to be in good light,

warm but not above about 65°F and will be happy for a number of growing seasons in a 3in pot.

One of the most brilliant of all trailing plants is *Columnea*, which produces masses of bright red tubular flowers in the spring. A true trailer with dense foliage habit, its dark green leaves are packed close together on the stems. *Columnea Banksii* is the best one to grow, liking a temperature of 60-70°F. It should be kept in light shade and during the winter months it is vital the pots are kept on the dry side. Moisture and feeding are required in the summer.

Of the many foliage plants which are good for bench edges, *Tradescantia fluminensis* (Wandering Jew), is a good plant, with attractive silver variegations on the light green leaves. Not a long trailer, it will fall about 9-10in fairly easily. The form 'Quicksilver' is the best, needing good light but no overwatering. *Zebrina pendula* is similar to *Tradescantia* and mixes well with it. It has a purple reverse to the leaves and purple stripes on the upper blade.

*Plectranthus oertendahlii* has a dreadful name, but it is a good trailer which produces off-white flowers in the autumn. The rounded leaves are enhanced with veins picked out in a lighter green than the blade, and the stems are inclined to be square. I like *P. colvicioides* which is of the same family but has leaves which are variegated with pale creamy yellow. This

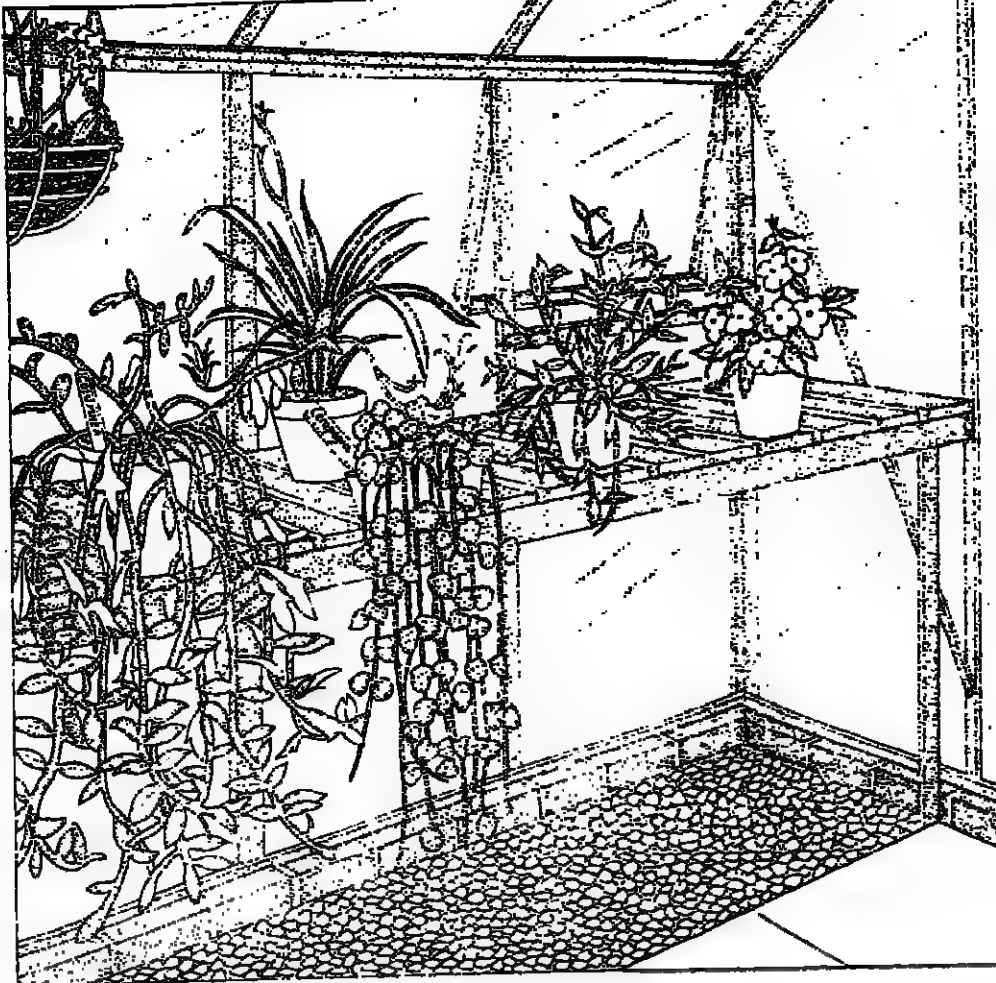
will grow at least 6ft straight downwards.

Plants with variegated foliage which are ideal for bench edges or for the base of planted containers are the *Fittonias*. *Fittonia argentea* (variegated) has the common name of the herringbone plant, alluding to the way the veins are picked out in a rich red. It is difficult to grow well, needing warmth and moisture in summer although by now the pots should be dried off a little. *Fittonia argentea nana* (snakeskin plant) is, as its name suggests, smaller than the type and its leaves are picked out in silver.

Spider plant is the name given to a number of plants but *Chlorophytum comosum variegatum* is the one usually associated with it. It has grass-like leaves which are light green in colour but with a band of gold at the centre. Leaves can grow to 18in and then arch downwards giving the whole plant a hairy look.

It is the flower stalks which make this plant different however. The flowers are produced in the normal way and are white, but not very eye-catching. Plantlets are formed on these flower stalks which bring the stalk down to a trailing position as they grow. In some cases these plants can trail for 2ft or more. Regular potting on is required if the plants are to be kept in good condition; they need light and should never be allowed to become dry.

Ashley Stephenson



Live-in greenery: from left to right, *Hoya carnosa*, *Columnea Banksii*, spider plant, *Ceropegia Woodii*, *Tradescantia* and *Achimenes*

## Winter planting

Deciduous trees and shrubs lose their leaves through the winter, and it is at this time that they can be moved or transplanted. Plants which retain their leaves over the winter are best left undisturbed until the roots become active again. Preparation is important for the plants being moved at any time, suffer from damage and the good gardener takes this into account. Check to ensure drainage is good. Gardens are usually well drained, and although there may be some surface compaction this is easily rectified. Plants respond to well aerated soils. If you dig a hole which almost immediately fills up with water this soil should be drained. Ground which has been well worked for a number of years is probably in good heart and there will be less need to do this. Poor soils should always have well-rotted farmyard manure added to the bottom soil. Dig a hole big enough to take the roots without cramming and lay the roots out much as they were before being lifted. Fill in the soil round the roots gradually and consolidate as you go. The plant should be a little deeper than it was in the nursery. Firm in well.

## Winter cheer

No garden should be dull in winter. There are plenty of plants which should make it a pleasure to visit a winter garden, and choosing them for their colour and form is a continuing exercise.

To attract insects and ensure they get enough pollen, winter flowers are usually scented. But there are exceptions and *Fatsia* is one of them. *Fatsia japonica* is an evergreen shrub which could almost be classed as a small tree because it sometimes grows to 15ft. It flowers in late autumn and early winter, and makes a good garden plant as it will produce flowers even in a lot of shade. Indeed, to do well the plant needs shade, although it will grow passably in sunny sites as long as the ground does not get too dry. I like them to see them beneath a canopy of large trees where they have good air circulation but are protected from the midday sun. *F. japonica* flowered early this year and is still in flower — but early frosts will attack the blooms, so they should be planted in sheltered positions.

Soil conditions are not demanding in fact. I have found that this plant will grow in any soil except a dry one. Ideally, it should be peaty or at least full of organic matter. It is vital that the soil should be able to hold moisture. Individual leaves can grow to as much as 15in and almost as long, and they are a rich, dark glossy green. I know no other hardy evergreen with leaves so large. The white flowers of *F. japonica* shine out from the shade of these dark leaves, growing like white drumsticks from panicles.

*F. japonica* can be grown in an indoor pot plant. There is also a variegated form, *F. japonica variegata*, with white-blotched leaves, and another variety, the *aurata*, which has golden markings. Plants cost about £6.50 each.

As a rule it is best during February and March, *L. x purpusii* is a hybrid between *fragrantissima* and *standishii*. It is more deciduous than either of its parents and its flowers are nearer to white than the parents, and well scented.

*L. x purpusii* is a gem. It has golden foliage which retains its colour through the winter. Small leaves on a low growing bush make it ideal for a low hedge, but it must be planted in full sun. Flowers are produced, but these are insignificant and usually seen in early summer.

*L. pileata* produces low hummocks of growth, and this makes it worthy of consideration as a ground cover. Leaves resemble box, but it is a better shrub and has a better habit for garden situations. There are insignificant flowers in May and June.

None of the varieties are worth growing just for their fruit, which is usually very disappointing. Plants will cost about £5 each, and can be obtained from Hilliers of Winchester, Notcutts of Woodbridge, Suffolk or Bridgeman Nurseries, Bridgeman, Cheshire.

## A taste of honeysuckle

Most gardeners think of honeysuckle as a climbing plant, but the shrub varieties have much to commend them — especially at this time of year. Many of the shrubs are coming into flower now. Although it is normally assumed that they will tolerate the cold, they can be badly affected by a hard frost.

Site and soil conditions are most important. Soil should not be too rich — a good garden soil with added humus should encourage growth. Try to ensure the plants are sited where drainage is good. Heavy wet soils should be avoided. If plants are in exposed areas, too much moisture during the winter causes a great many plant deaths.

*Lonicera fragrantissima* provides lovely winter colour. This plant will grow up to 6ft high and almost as wide. Noted for its creamy white scented flowers, which are now open, it should be sited close to a wall, on a wall or similar position. Because it is a partial evergreen it should only be planted in the autumn or the spring if not in containers. *L. standishii* is similar to *L. fragrantissima* but does not make such a big bush and flowers a little



Winter white: *Lonicera fragrantissima*

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# A few tips from the camera that does everything but press the button.

## How to focus.

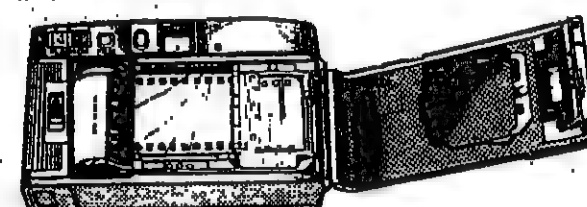
Easy; you don't. You don't set the exposure either.

A microcomputer sets everything — focusing, aperture, shutter speed — automatically.

Infra-red light instantaneously measures camera-subject distance — even in the dark.

## How to take the hassle out of loading 35mm films.

Easy; the new AF-S has an auto-loading system that's as easy as snapping in a 110 cassette.



## How to take great pictures.

Ah, the crunch. The AF-S tackles it two ways.

1. Unlike most autofocus cameras,

it handles every film speed up to the new ISO 1000.

2. Its ultra-fast f2.8 lens (made by one of the world's greatest names in optical glass — ours) means razor-sharp pictures, every time.

## How to take pictures in the dark.

No problem; if a red light flashes in the viewfinder you just switch on the built-in flash unit.

## How to play candid camera.

Natural shots of your family and friends demand an element of surprise.

Which is why (to complement its point-and-shoot capability) the AF-S is so surprisingly small.

## How to take pictures of yourself.

A neat self-timer means that all you do is press the button, assume your pose, and say 'cheese.'

## How to wind-on the film.

You don't. There's a built-in auto-winder — that also helps you take sequences like this. Then having reached the end of the film, the AF-S automatically rewinds it, ready to be taken out.

## How good?

Good enough to be selected as Best Buy in the Sunday Times.

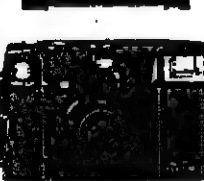
## How much?

Would you believe under £100?

Or that just £10 more buys the AF-S Talker — the only camera in the world that actually talks you into better pictures.

Seeing — and listening — is believing.

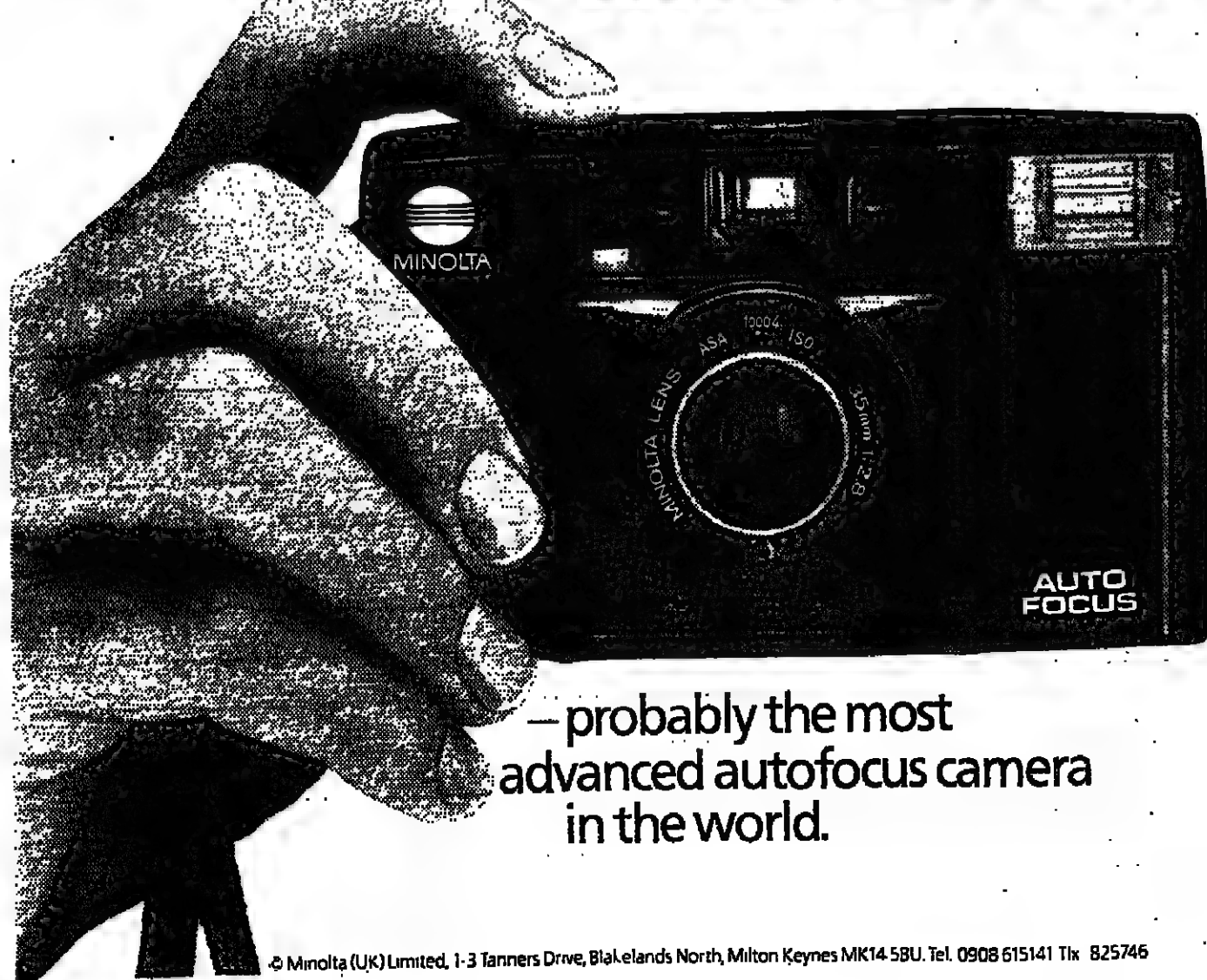
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Capital tree for children at Christmas

Why Horace

Pioja and Christmas

NT CHRISTMAS AT THE NATIONAL THEATRE



## FAMILY LIFE

## Capital treats for children at Christmas

Two requests prompted me to write this column. The first was made by my sister-in-law in Yorkshire who brought her two young children to stay for the first time, wanting to show them the capital without completely exhausting the shoe leather or my temper in the process. The second came in a letter from a lady returning to England after a 10-year absence. She too wanted to "do" London and asked for advice on outings for her offspring.

Bearing in mind that this is December, when days are short and temperatures far from mellow, and that I assume any parent visiting the city with children will know or be told about the lights, the tree in Trafalgar Square and the carols, the Tower of London, Buckingham Palace, Westminster Abbey, St Paul's and the major stores, I have chosen several outings which accompanied by sunny children, I have enjoyed in the past two years.

Hard by Buckingham Palace are the Royal Mews where the Queen's horses and many royal and state carriages are kept. The carriages and stables are redolent of a bygone age but as you would imagine, immaculately kept. You can see most of the carriages, landaus, (and a sledge designed by Prince Albert) at close quarters. The "old coach" is roped off and here are usually so many people waiting to look at it that you have to keep on the move. But the horses are magnificent - all named - and may be seen to great advantage on a hoary, breath-snorting afternoon.

I have always found the coachmen and other members of staff friendly, approachable and more than happy to answer the kind of questions young children ask. There is much to see and the State Harness Room and Saddle room are fascinating to young eyes.

Talking of jewels, if you have made the almost obligatory visit to the Tower of London and if you have a head for heights, then I would suggest taking the children to the Tower Bridge Walkway whence you have unrivalled views of the Thames.

Children can learn about the history of the bridge and how it functions, see steam-driven

hydraulic engines and on most occasions exhibitions of art (it is a regular display area for the prize-winning entries from the Cadbury's National Exhibition of children's art and poetry). There is also a museum on the south side of the bridge. You won't have too far to walk from there to the Museum of London where the main attractions are the thematic displays of London's history from Roman times to the present day. With models and reconstructions of rooms illustrating the city as it was in medieval, Tudor and Stuart eras, the museum provides a good introduction to understanding how the capital evolved.

The model of the Great Fire of London, with special sound and lighting effects, is always popular with children.

Nearby at the Barbican Centre, two exhibitions have been mounted for the Christmas period (until January 7) both suitable for very young children. "Folk Nativities of the World" includes one hundred different crib settings (part of Countess Maria Hubert von Stauffer's impressive collection).

"Christmas by E. J. Taylor" is an exhibition of five shop-window displays, last seen in Tiffany's, Manhattan, by an American sculptor and author of children's books who now lives in England. The tableaux depict the elves who work for Father Christmas and the toys they make. The Barbican Centre is often criticized for its poor access but it is well worth visiting and there are many



Take that, Percy Press and his Punch and Judy show at Madame Tussaud's

other activities going on there during the holidays.

I hesitated before suggesting the Science, Natural History and British Museums partly because these need little introduction, and also because they are all very crowded during the school holidays. But visit them you must because they are among the best in the world.

It is worth heeding the advice given me by the director of education at the Science Museum: not to attempt to see everything but to select areas of special interest, see those and then go home. Trying to cram in too much - like a surfeit of turkey and Christmas pudding - will only cause indigestion.

One of the most exciting areas of the Science Museum this Christmas will be the "Test Bed" experiment area, with many hands-on models for children to investigate and enjoy and in the process almost certainly acquire more understanding of several scientific principles. And at the British Museum children can spend several enjoyable hours following (with well-designed quiz sheets) a number of trails including Roman Britain, Indian, Animals in Ancient Egypt and Hunt the Hieroglyphs.

Among our favourite museums is the London Transport Museum in Covent Garden, where children can explore old

trams and buses, operate points and signals and "drive" a modern bus. And to coincide with an exhibition of Tom Eekersley's famous LT posters, children can learn in poster-painting sessions themselves.

Other highly-rated outings have included the Maritime Museum at Greenwich, the Collection of Historic Ships at St Katherine Docks, a trip down the Thames in a covered boat with packed lunch and a video recording of the river's history, several hours spent brass-rubbing medieval knights at the London Brass Rubbing Centre. Still rated highly with most of the under-twelves I know is a visit to Madame Tussaud's where Punch and Judy shows are a traditional feature of the Christmas period.

But perhaps the most popular outing we have been on was an evening trip down Regent's Canal, eating a three-course dinner, and returning with a lunatic singer/guitarist/impressionist singing "British abroad" songs and old cockney favourites.

You will find hundreds more listed in various publications, the best of which for a short visit is probably *Children's London* published by the London Tourist Board (60p) available at tourist information points and most hotels.

Judy Froshaug

## Outings

**HANDEL'S MESSIAH** If you are visiting Trafalgar Square, the National Gallery or also Antiques Centre, round off the day with a visit to St Martin's to listen to the Messiah and put yourselves in a true Christmas spirit.

St Martin-in-the-Fields, London WC2 (839 1538). Today, 7pm. Tickets £2-25.

**TWO CAROL CONCERTS:** More Christmas celebration with the choirs of local schools (primary schools in the afternoon, secondary in the evening) accompanied by the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra in a full carol concert.

Fairfield Hill, Croydon (888 9291). Today 3pm, Adult £2.50, child £1. For the 7.45pm performance tickets are £2-24.75.

**CHRISTMAS COOKERY WORKSHOP:** For children aged seven and over, the chance to make their own sweetmeats for Christmas.

Geffrye Museum, King'sland Road, London E2 (739 3368). Today, 10am-12.30pm, 2-4pm. Free.

**THE CARPENTER'S WORKSHOP:** A project for children and parents, with quizzes, lectures, musical workshop, in one of London's finest houses - with the rolling heath outside for walks before or after the workshops.

Kingswood, The West End, Hampstead Lane, London NW3 (833 2751). Daily until Feb 1, 10.30am-12.30pm and 2pm-4pm. Closed Dec 22-Jan 1.

**HOLIDAY LECTURES:** Designed to appeal to the older age range of school students (12-18), several illustrated talks on medical matters given by acknowledged masters in the field at the Royal College of Surgeons, "Go Ahead Surgery" (Tues, 3pm), "The Sixth Form and Medicine" (Wed, 3pm) and "The Medical Student of Man in Space" (Jan 4, 3pm). Applications, enclosing 50p, to Miss L. E. Napper, Surgical Training Officer, Royal College of Surgeons, 35/43 Lincoln's Inn Fields, London WC2A 3PN. No charge for attendance, but you must have a ticket. Refreshments served after the lectures.

**ANGELO:** Just opened for the Christmas season at the Little Angel, the resident company's dramatization of the eponymous story of a group of Italian strolling players. Little Angel Marionette Theatre, 14 Dagenham Passage, Cross Street, London E1 (226 7787). Today, tomorrow, Dec 22, 23, and Dec 26-31, 11am and 3pm. Adult £2.50 at 3pm, £2 at 11am; child £1 at 11am, £1.50 at 3pm.

**SEAMANS' WORKSHOPS:** Children with a nautical bent should make for the National Theatre next week where members of the cast of *The Ancient Mariner* will be teaching such skills as rope-climbing, knotting and sailors' homophones. The workshops are in the Olivier stalls foyer on Mon, Tues and Thurs at 11.15am. There is no charge but numbers are limited and admission is by ticket. Information: 01-633 0880.

## Day of hot mulls and champagne

Friends and family seem to spend more time at Christmas swapping jokes from crackers than assessing the quality of the wine they drink, so I would rather get lots of good, reasonably priced drinks than buy fewer of the finest and rarest bottles.

Hot mulled wine is a good Christmas morning tipple and simple to make. Take a pinch each of cloves and mixed spice, several slices of orange and lemon, sugar to taste, plus half a glass of brandy or port for every bottle of modestly-priced, full-bodied red wine. Heat gently, making sure the mulled doesn't boil.

A really good Christmas Day aperitif is my one exception to the "more but cheaper" approach. A glass of cold champagne always goes down well with neighbours on Christmas morning. This year's crop of good, inexpensive own-label bubbly includes Sainsbury's flower Dry Champagne (£5.95), Waitrose's fresh Extra Dry (£5.95) and the lovely, full-flavoured Charles Denery Brut (A.D. 53.95) that did so well at our recent Christmas wine tasting.

With guests about to arrive for lunch, you can either continue with the champagne (but not the mulled) as an aperitif and first-course wine or switch to Sandeman's Character Amoreoso. Sherry is a much maligned fortified wine these days but a fine, old, sweet oloroso such as the amber-gold Character with its classic rich, nutty taste is a real treat. As it contains sherry drawn from a solera laid down in 1895, it is a tremendous bargain (buy at £3.69 from Oddbins).

If you would rather start with a dry wine than sherry, Oddbins also have an excellent Chardonnay from Italy's north-eastern Alto Adige region - home of some increasingly impressive wines. This '83 Altesino Chardonnay comes from the house of Lagarde and has a pale gold colour backed by the rich pineapple flavour so characteristic of young Chardonnay from

outside France. At £2.89, it is a good buy.

Chianti is a robust red whose high acidity and definite flavour should cut through all the rich Christmas stuffings and complicated sauces with ease. The Market and Le Provençal shops are currently offering the splendid '82 Rocca delle Macie Chianti Classico for £2.29 instead of £2.69. Apart from the bitter almond bouquet typical of many Chiantis, this wine from Castellina in the southern part of the Chianti region has a delicious rich, fruity taste and finish unlike the lean austerity of most Tuscan reds.

But if nothing less than *cru classe* claret will do for an awkward relation, visit Berry Bros & Rudd (3, St James's Street, London SW1). They have a wide range of under-estimated '77s which, as they correctly point out, is "the most undervalued Bordeaux vintage of the past 10 years". I recently tasted a dozen '77s with them and the best of the bunch was undoubtedly the fifth growth Pauillac Chateau Batailly. Don't be put off by its slightly murky purple colour: its fine, cedary bouquet and full, elegant palate more than make up for that, as does its price.

At this stage in my household, everyone has come to a grinding halt before attacking the mineral water and Alka Seltzer, but if you can still find room for a wine to drink with Christmas pudding, a honied, peachy glass or two of Sainsbury's '83 Muscat de Beaumes de Venise is a safe choice (£4.65).

Jane MacQuitty



## BRIDGE

## Why Horace was unlucky

The bar at the club was nearly empty. At one end Dogberry peered gloomily into the remains of his gin and tonic as Horace Paradine droned on in the lecturing tone that he reserved for his unending mathematical disquisitions. At the other, Charles Grandace appeared to be immersed in his evening paper.

The subject of Horace's monologue was the deciding hand in the club's annual teams tournament. Traditionally, it was a light-hearted event, where the better players were encouraged to mingle with the lesser lights. Dogberry, who had yielded to his wife's suggestion that an evening at Annabel's would be a more suitable way to spend their anniversary, was a natural target for Horace's self-playing recital of the critical hand.

With one board to play, the issue lay between Charles's team and mine. Although of course we didn't know it at the time, we were leading by 12 IMPs.

This was the final deal:

Teams North-South game.

Dealer West.

AKQ7  
84  
854  
AQ93  
N  
W  
E  
S  
10864  
10  
AK10  
879

W G N E S  
NT Double 27  
No 44 No No

"Charles led the ♠A. When I saw the dummy I was delighted with my decision. Percy contributed an indeterminate heart, so Charles cashed the ♠K before switching to the ♠Q. Obviously, Charles must hold the ♠K to account for his opening bid. But to make the contract I required three club tricks in order to dispose of my losing diamond.

"As I could reasonably dismiss the possibility of Charles having a doubleton club, there were two possible club distributions which would permit me to make three tricks: either 3-3 break, or a 4-2 break, where West has either ♠Kxx or ♠K10xx.

"Superficially, it might seem better to rely on the 3-3 break. But by careful timing, declarer can succeed whenever West has either the ♠K or the ♠10, a 75 per cent chance.

"Satisfied that my calculations were correct, I formed my plan. Take the diamond and run the ♠Q. If it loses, win the diamond return and finesse the ♠9. Draw trumps, ending in hand before repeating the club finesse. Notice that it is essential to start the clubs before drawing trumps, otherwise you are an entry short.

"I must admit that was a beautifully reasoned scheme," said Dogberry, with genuine admiration. "What happened?"

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# Entertainments

## TELEVISION

## THE WEEK

### All aglow with the human spirit

#### Programme choice



Deep feeling: Humphrey Jennings in 1944

On Thursday Channel 4's splendid season of Second World War documentaries reaches its peak with *Fires Were Started*, the 1943 tribute to the Auxiliary Fire Service directed by Humphrey Jennings (2.30-3.30 pm).

*Fires Were Started* was made for an official body, the Crown Film Unit, as propaganda for the war effort. But, as so often with Jennings, it gloriously transcends its immediate purpose and can stand comparison with anything the British cinema has produced.

It was Jennings's only full length film and the nearest he came to a feature in the conventional sense. Definitions are tricky but they help to place the film. *Fires Were Started* is a fiction in that it is a reconstruction, not a first-hand record, and it has a plot and characters.

At the same time it is rooted in real events - fire fighting in the London docks during the Blitz - and the parts are played not by professional actors but by the firemen themselves.

Up to then Jennings had worked entirely in shorts, most of them lasting only a few minutes. At their best, notably *Listen to Britain*, they were brilliantly constructed vignettes of image and sound infused with a deep feeling for the comradeship and unity of the nation in war.

*Fires Were Started* enabled Jennings to explore this theme over a larger canvas while revealing the ability - rare among British film makers - to portray ordinary people without condescension. Like George Orwell, Jennings was an upper middle class intellectual with an instinctive sympathy for the common man.

The richness of the film is belied by the simplicity of the story. It opens with the men gathering for duty, welcoming a new colleague and waiting for the inevitable night raids. Short of water and equipment, they battle with a blazing warehouse; the fire is mastered but one of the men is killed.

The fire fighting scenes are handled with a documentary vividness but the quality of the film comes not only from its capacity to convince on a superficial level but the force of Jennings's sensibility, which goes far beyond surface realism.

Again and again a telling image or idea lifts the film above the level of mere record.

Peter Waymark

**L'INCORONAZIONE DI POPPEA:** Claudio Monteverdi's opera, set in ancient Rome, in the Glyndebourne production directed by Sir Peter Hall and conducted by Raymond Lappard. The leading roles are sung by Maria Ewing (Lady Poppea) and Dennis Bailey. BBC2, today, 8.10-10.55 pm.

**SPORTS REVIEW OF 1984:** A look back at the big moments and the presentation to the Sports Personality of the Year as chosen by viewers. Looks like a contest between the darlings of the ice, Torvill and Dean, and Olympic champions Sebastian Coe and Daley Thompson. It certainly will not be an England cricket. BBC1, tomorrow, 7.15-8.50 pm.

**A KIND OF ALASKA:** Dorothy Tutin, Paul Schofield and Susan Engel in Harold Pinter's award winning play inspired by the real case history of a woman who "falls asleep" for 30 years. All ITV regions, tomorrow, 9.45-10.55 pm.

**YES MINISTER:** Extended seasonal edition of the marvellous political sitcom has our heroes gathering for the office Christmas party knowing that an impending disaster could have a dramatic effect on their lives. Paul Eddington as Jim Hacker, Nigel Hawthorne as Sir Humphrey. BBC2, Mon, 8.30-9.30 pm.

**SUPERCHARGED:** Lovely place of nostalgia as racing driver John Watson re-creates the golden age of the Grand Prix car between 1924 and 1939, helped by a 1920s Buick and a 1930s film. BBC2, Mon, 9.30-10.20 pm.

**MACMILLAN AT WAR:** Sprightly nonagenarian Lord Stirling looks back at the time in North Africa during the Second World War in the first of three conversations with Ludovic Kennedy; witty assessments of Eisenhower, de Gaulle and General Alexander. BBC1, Wed, 10.45-11.20 pm. The other two programmes are at 11.15 pm on Thurs and Fri.

**WINTER FLIGHT:** Roy Battersby's film from the David Putnam stable charts the buoyant progress of young love on an RAF station in Cambridgeshire. Appearing performances from Reece Dinsdale and 16-year-old Nicola Williams. Channel 4, Thurs, 9.30-11.30 pm.

**THE STAR THEY LOVED TO HATE:** Profile of James Mason which includes an interview with Shelley Long on location for his last film, *The Four Seasons*, a frank assessment of his life, personal and professional, the peaks and the troughs. Also clips from his films, including *A Star is Born*, *The Wicked Lady* and his favourite, *Old Man and the Sea*. All ITV regions, Fri, 10.30-11.30 pm.

## ART GALLERIES

**ANTHONY JOPPA, 2 & 22 DORSET**  
201 D.L. WILSON DE ROONING

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## WINTER SPORTS

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## Paperbacks of the month

The Selected Letters of Anton Chekhov Edited by Eilian Hellman, translated by Sidonie K. Lederer. (Picador, £7.95)

This is a reprint of a selection published by Hamish Hamilton in 1955. As to be expected with Lillian Hellman, the introduction and linking commentary are a trifle loaded, with the emphasis on Chekhov's radical views. This is fair enough, although as he himself wrote: "I sometimes preach heresies, but have never once gone as far as the absolute negation of problems in art... I always insist it is not the business of the artist to solve narrowly specialized questions." In another letter he indicates what he considers to be among "the holy of holies", namely health, intelligence, talent, inspiration, love and "absolute freedom" to express himself.

Chekhov was perfectly aware that society in Russia as he knew it was doomed. As a doctor he saw more abuse of the underprivileged than most. This is especially evident in letters describing his horrendous 3,000-mile trip to eastern Siberia, his census work and investigation of prison conditions on the convict settlement of Sakhalin. He was not a man to spare himself, dedicated as he was to the care of others. When the family fortunes failed, he made himself financially responsible for his whole family, housed them with him, worked long hours, as a doctor and as a writer.

Literary fame came early. "I need solitude

## Humour in the face of hardship

Kay Dick admires the gentle courage that permeates the letters of Anton Chekhov

and time" was his constant cry, but both of these were limited by the practicalities of looking after his family. The grandson of a serf, he enjoyed reasonably affluent early years and an excellent education. He lived well yet simply. His lifestyle throughout could be described as a spartan elegance. He enjoyed the pleasures and small luxuries, and presented an optimistic view of the future.

In the 1890s in Russia when attitudes were strongly polarized, Chekhov, although highly praised, was often attacked for his refusal to align himself. For a time he was a Tolstoyan disciple - quietly confident about his own stance. As Miss Hellman puts it: "Chekhov looked at his work with clarity and humility... he was not to be buried or pushed or bullied". As these letters emphasize, nothing pleased him so much as to watch people with a gentle, humorous eye. Personal relationships, oddities and eccentricities, contradictions, pretensions, ambitions, failures and vulnerabilities were his concern. "We paint life such as it is... that's all, there isn't any more." The first sign of the tuberculosis

which was to kill him in his early forties was then evident. "Some inner force, like a presentiment, judges me to make haste."

He bought for himself and his family the small estate of Melikhovo, where days were spent looking after the peasantry, coping with typhoid, and writing until the early dawn hours. Concurrent with the stories were the plays. *The Seagull*, *Uncle Vanya*, *The Three Sisters* became established repertory classics, with Chekhov constantly moaning about their misinterpretation.

Ill-health took him to Yalta, where he pined for Moscow life. His friendship with Gorki and encouragement of the younger writer are among the finest of these letters, although one has to admit that all Chekhov's letters are marvellous. They fill one with regret to have missed knowing Chekhov - the caring, witty, intellectually scrupulous, intuitive, sweet-natured man - whose work, stories and plays is so memorable. A selection inevitably brings omissions to mind (from the Constance Garnett edition for instance), and one wonders why Miss

Hellman includes only a handful of letters from more than 300 to Olga Knipper, the young actress whom Chekhov married in his 41st year. Clearly, from her comments, Miss Hellman does not like what is known of Olga. She was so often an absent wife, a not very good actress, selfish, intellectually lightweight and not particularly considerate of Chekhov's need. Miss Hellman describes it as "a sad marriage", and evidently it was. Although Chekhov, very loyally, regarded it as happy.

Towards the end of 1903 he completed *The Cherry Orchard* - pondered over for three years - and lived long enough to attend the first night. Totally exhausted by then, he retreated again to Yalta and took to his bed. He died on July 2, 1904.

It is a pity that this edition is such a miserable production, hardly matching the richness of the text and, on the whole I prefer the Constance Garnett translation to this starkly literal one. That apart it is good to be in touch again with Chekhov's personal



Simple pleasure: Anton Chekhov

## Trains roll in on tape tracks

### Spoken word

Further Railway Stories by the Rev W. Awdry, read by William Rushon (Argo, 2 cassettes, £10.95). *Winnie-the-Pooh* by A. A. Milne, read by Alan Bennett (BBC Records REC 528, available on cassette, ZCM 458, £2.99). *The House at Pooh Corner* by A. A. Milne, read by Alan Bennett (BBC Records REC 493, available on cassette, ZCM 459, £2.99). *Just So Stories* by Rudyard Kipling, read by Johnny Morris (Cover to Cover Cassettes, 3 cassettes, £7.75). *Stig of the Dump* by Clive King, read by Martin Jarvis (Cover to Cover Cassettes, 3 cassettes, £7.75). *Treasure Island* by Robert Louis Stevenson, read by David Buck (Cover to Cover Cassettes, 6 cassettes, £17.25).

With Christmas in mind, I have chosen a selection of cassettes and albums for children which have something to offer to grown-ups as well.

For the youngest listeners, and to the accompaniment of generous helpings of rushing steam, William Rushon reads *Further Railway Stories* by the Rev W. Awdry. Between them, Rushon and Johnny Morris have recorded all the Railway Stories for Argo in five two-cassette sets, of which these 24 stories form the last set; the nostalgic sounds are authentic, from the old Transacord recording, well-remembered by railway enthusiasts.

Also for the very young, *Winnie-the-Pooh* and *The House at Pooh Corner*, in slightly shortened versions, are as warmly reassuring as ever but seem to gain a piquancy from Alan Bennett's gentle and endearing North-Country voice. Pooh and his friends are all beautifully defined and the forest both new and familiar, as ever.

The "animal magic" of Johnny Morris's many voices brings a contemporary shine to Kipling's wise old art, and creates something new and beguiling in the eight unabridged *Just So Stories*. *The Cat That Walked By Himself* is particularly charming in this reading.

Also unabridged, and lasting for three and a half hours (a fraction longer than the Kipling), is *Stig of the Dump*, for the 6 to 10-year-olds, one of the most original and most absorbing children's stories I know. Written some 20 years ago by Clive King and read very companionably by Martin Jarvis, it tells the story of how Barney, on holiday with his grandmother, tumbles accidentally into an old chalk-pit with a rubbish dump at the bottom, and finds it is inhabited by Stig, an adaptable and ingenious survivor from cave-man days, who becomes his friend.

For the 10-year-olds and upwards, the full-length *Treasure Island*, in this outstanding reading by David Buck (six cassettes, 7 1/2 hours), is treasure indeed, though it is likely to be borrowed by their elders for bedtime listening.

A hundred years' after it was written, Stevenson's classic adventure story, full of treachery and bravery, avarice and horror, has not lost its appeal, and this production gives tension and excitement their full value. This set, and *Stig of the Dump* are obtainable by mail order from Cover to Cover Cassettes, Froese, Marlborough, Wiltshire (067 286 495).

Mary Postgate

## Power in the pen of an ironic magician

Shame by Salman Rushdie (Picador, £2.95)

"As for me", Salman Rushdie writes in *Shame*, "I, too, like all migrants, am a fantasist. I build imaginary countries and try to impose them on the ones that exist." The country in question is Pakistan, and it is imaginary in its development as an historical concept, and for the fact that Rushdie's fictional country is, as he says, not quite Pakistan. Yet his country is Pakistan enough for its history to be recognizably similar to that of the Land of the Pure.

A satirical fable, often grotesque, sometimes profane, frequently meretricious, *Shame* poses a problem of response to which facet of the book does one react? The high-flown fantasy of she-devils, parent-

hood and sexual yearning? The autobiographical, first person interjections which punctuate *Shame* rather like integrated footnotes? Or what amounts to a political satire based on the rise and fall of the executed Zulfikar Ali Bhutto?

Mr Rushdie himself may not be sure. One feels that one is reading three books simultaneously, of which only two are ultimately successful; and that can only lead to a feeling of dissatisfaction: a job lot, not quite a bargain.

Mr Rushdie has been hailed as a master fantasist. But it is the more extravagant mythical fairy tale, he calls it, element of the book that seems most hollow. And it is his "footnotes" and satire (satire, of course, relies on footnotes - or at least knowledge of the object

- for its effectiveness) which work best.

This is as much a book about Rushdie as anything else, and not only in its autobiographical passages but about his love-hate relationship with his native sub-continent. Most western-educated - and based - Indians and Pakistanis have to reconcile, sometimes with great difficulty, their sentimental longings with their distaste for the poverty, but the venality, volatility and, above all, the hypocrisy so prevalent in that particular neck of the woods. *Shame* (the Urdu word *sharam* is more resonant) and honour, the progenitors of violence and the baubles of the hypocrite, are all well evoked.

Central to the book is the account of the rise and fall of Iskander Harappa and his

successor as ruler of Rushdie's imaginary country, General Raza Hyder, who is based (unashamedly, but often very loosely) on Bhutto and General Zia. Here are the God-fearing puritan and the spoilt, arrogant former playboy; both shameless and hypocritical, each the father to the other. They are, he suggests, Robespierre and Danton.

Rushdie is at his best when talking about power and destiny, how the lives and fates of the powerful intertwine. He conjures up the archetype of Alexander, and the book is dotted with comic names and jokes which must be meaningful to the British reader. Iskander Harappa is a great man and," Rushdie says, "if a great man touches you, you age too quickly, you live too much

and are used up". It applies to Harappa's mistress, Finkia Aurangzeb, but it could equally apply to a nation. A great man, after all, seduces a nation, even makes it fall in love with him. Others merely rise to power.

Throughout, Mr Rushdie is the reflective, mischievous, omnipotent and deeply ironic magician, conscious of his power over his characters. This God-like role allows him to play with the reader and the book itself, sometimes most irritatingly.

*Shame* is undeniably a powerful, well observed and often deeply perceptive novel; but it is, like all man-made creations, imperfect.

Anwar Bati



Mischief-maker: Salman Rushdie, dealing with fantasy and reality

## Grave matters: Avenging a murder

### Non-fiction

Highgate Cemetery, Victorian Valhalla, photographed by John Gay, introduced by Felix Barker (John Murray, £7.50)

Angels and Ministers of Grace superintend our tombs; and also lions, lambs, grand pianos, cricket stumps, balloons and obelisks in the great Highgate cemetery that has become a wonder of the world, and a wild-life reserve in the centre of London. John Gay's photographs taken over 20 years capture the changing moods and lights of the place where wild nature wrestles with high Victorian funerary art. The pictures and Felix Barker's history of the burial ground express a very special, very beautiful, very English corner of London.

The Best of JJ by John Junor (Unwin, £2.50)

Over the years the editor's column of opinion, rant, sentimentality, and bluff Scottish prejudice on the latter page of the *Sunday Express* has become a national institution. It has done more to put Auchtermuchty on the map than the Scottish Tourist Board, and more to reduce hostility to homosexuals than the Gay Liberation Front. Here is a slim vol of collected pieces that have not been dated by their topicality. In a preface "My Dear John" letter, refusing to write a foreword, the Prime Minister admits to being a regular reader: "I would add that the things that stuck in your gullet were the things that



Observant: Henry Williamson, with an eye on nature

stuck in mine too!" The pieces are an example of Nature defeating Parody. JJ is the only reason for buying the *Sunday Express*. But even he is not enough to compensate for the embarrassment of being seen carrying it.

Eleni by Nicholas Gage (Fontana, £2.95)

Nicholas Gage was born Gatzoyannis in northern Greece, near the Albanian border. As a small boy he was smuggled away from his village. His mother and the rest of his family who stayed behind were executed by Communist guerrillas in the pitiless Greek civil war. Gatzoyannis was taken to America, educated, made good, and became an investigative reporter and foreign correspondent for the *New York Times*. Then he went back to Greece to investigate and avenge his mother's murder. This is his story, given the Royal Society of

Literature Award last year when it was published in hardback, and soon to be made into a major film, *Apollo* help us. It has the implacability and Iron Age morality of something out of Sophocles, and explains the peculiar bloodiness and nobility of the Greeks.

Java, The Garden of the East by Eliza Ruhamah Scidmore (OUP Singapore, £10.50)

This book, first published in 1899, has been described as a "seminal work" (if you can bear that). It is an early account by an American writer of travel books, crammed with well written information on people, flora and fauna as seen at the end of the last century. Eliza Scidmore (1856-1928) enthuses about the Javanese, detests the Dutch colonialists and their pompous officials, is deeply shocked by the naked ankles and bedroom slippers of women in their daily "disposable", but she does not hesitate to "Kodak" them.

She descends to bow to the memory of Sir Stamford Raffles and other figures of the British empire, and writes flowingly and well about the country, its expensiveness, its steamy climate, lush greenery, unsatisfactory hotels, undrinkable coffee and "riz tavel" - mountainous dishes of curry and rice - while regretting the absence of Baedeker and Murray to guide her.

A Year Among the Persians by Edward Granville Browne (Century, £8.95)

Edward Granville Browne (1862-1926) was a Persian

scholar and an orientalist. Son of a Newcastle civil engineer he hated Eton but had a lifelong attachment to Cambridge where a fellowship at Pembroke College enabled him to spend a year (1887-88) in Persia. Browne's mastery of oriental languages was remarkable. He could write equally well in Arabic, Persian and Turkish, and his ability to read who's conversations enabled him to produce this book (1893) as his first major work. His account starts slowly but after a visit to Shiraz, the book races away in the company of poets, mystics, dervishes and a medicinal whiff of opium.

The Phasian Bird by Henry Williamson (Goydell Press, £4.95)

In *The Phasian Bird* the perils of fur, feather, tooth and claw run parallel with the troubled relationships of farmers and masters to labourers and men. Henry Williamson wrote a wonderful clove of minute observation with the broadest view of nature. To me it brought home early memories of horse days in the country, in sight, sound and smell.

The book tells the story of Chee-Kai, an orphaned golden pheasant, brought up by a pair of partridges, Pertis and Perdix, in the context of the relationship between two farmers and their men. The story starts well, but like so many memories, seems to be unconsciously distorted by the desire of human beings at the beginning of the Second World War.

Philip Howard and Conran Goulden

### Fiction

The Riverside Villas Murder by Kingsley Amis (Penguin, £1.95)

A 14-year-old schoolboy sits at home reading the *Daily Mirror* and dreaming of sex. Suddenly a man comes through the french windows with his head pouring blood, says "Hallo, hallo", and drops dead on the carpet. That is followed by anonymous letters, murder weapons falsely planted, a maze of alibis and enigmatic detectives scoring points off each other. It is a preposterous pastiche involving all that we love best in the old-fashioned whodunnit.

The detail is meticulous, whether it is the name of a cigarette brand or the exact shape of a £5 note. Tennis club dances, radio music, *Wizard of Lifebuoy* soap are all in place, and the inhabitants of Riverside Villas try hard to preserve their suburban niceties in spite of the melodrama foisted upon them. The Amis wit controls it all - making what is odd seem normal and what is commonplace bizarre.

Look at Me by Anita Brookner (Penguin, £1.95)

*Il Huet du Lac* is a work of perfect artifice, so is this. Frances Hinton has been brought up in the strongest traditions of good manners. She has been taught to conceal grief, never to parade her feelings in a way which might be tiresome to other people, always to preserve self control. When she gets caught up in a circle of friends who know nothing of this discipline, who flaunt their own



Meticulous: Kingsley Amis, with a preposterous pastiche rampant egotism to entertain. Each other, she realizes what she lacks and longs to share their greed and gaiety.

This novel is for anyone who knows what it is like to feel invisible among a group of laughing friends and to walk away from heartbreak trying to look nonchalant and amused. The message is not new but it is sad and clear: those who are beautiful and selfish get what they want, it is the self-disciplined who end up slighted and lonely. And over this realization looms the tyrant, Christmas, ready to mock the pathos of failed expectation.

Magaldi Days by R. K. Narayan (Narayan, £2.50)

Narayan has created the imaginary city of Magaldi and already described it through the eyes of Raman the sign painter. Now, in these short stories, he fills out further details of the lives and the worries and aspirations of

the people who live there. Taken together the stories present a complete sociological survey. They describe the postman's relationship with the families on his round, the doctor's manner with his patient and the sculptor's attitude to his work. The most telling details of domestic life are picked out and polished in such a way that Magaldi begins to demand the reader's loyalty as if it were his own home town.

Cassandra by Christa Wolf (Virago, £4.50)

In this extraordinary medley of classical learning, feminist consciousness and traveller's tales, Christa Wolf emerges as an energetic personality. The first part of the book is a retelling of the story of the conflict between the Greeks and Trojans told through the eyes of Cassandra. Her terrible burden of truth and hysteria, the effect she has on other people, and they on her, is shaped into a passionate discussion of war and the sensibilities of both men and women in a situation where disaster is inevitable.

The second part of the book is a series of lectures on the same "Cassandra" themes. The author takes a more personal approach, carefully juxtaposing her study of the possible life of the prophetess in ancient times with an account of her own feelings while on a tourist journey through modern Greece. Her "overall concern", she says, "is the sinister effects of alienation in aesthetics, in art, as well as elsewhere".

Anne Barnes

## THE WEEK

### Openings

EIGHT AT THE WHITE SPACE: Computer graphics mix with more conventional media in this show by eight artists, most of whom are concerned with recurring patterns in nature. Robert Dixon, Alan Senior and Julia Bath are among the contributors.

White Space Gallery, 6 Shillingford Street, London W1 (884 0946). Opens Jan 12, Mon-Fri 10am-5pm, Sat 11am-2pm. Mixed exhibition of gallery artists illustrating the artist's great variety of styles, some amusing interpretations and one small, beautifully framed painting by Barry Castle which seems to capture Asop's enduring insight into human nature.

MICHAEL LLOYD/ALISTAIR McCALLUM Oxford Gallery, 23 High Street, Oxford (865 242731). Until Jan 3, Mon-Sat 10am-5pm. Two artists working in precious metals, but with very different styles: Lloyd produces chased silver bowls, McCallum uses mokume, a technique which blends the metals together so that they swirl into patterns resembling melting ice creams.

AN ARCHITECTURAL QUEST: FROM BARCELONA TO THE BALTIC Francis Kyle Gallery, 9 Maddox Street, London W1 (488 8870). Until Jan 11, Mon-Fri 10am-6pm, Sat 11am-6pm. Glynn Boyd Harte's recent watercolours range from the austere neo-classicism of the Altes Museum in Berlin to the organic forms of Gaudi's Casa Mila in Barcelona. The show includes interiors of The Hermitage in Leningrad and Mackintosh's Willow Tea Rooms in Glasgow.

DESIGNS FOR DANCES Amalfini Gallery, Narrow Quay, Bristol (272 289194). Until Jan 13, Tue-Sat 10am-6pm, Sun 2-5pm. Original designs by Bakst, Braque, Legor and John Piper are on show,

27, Mon-Sat 10am-6pm, Sun 2-5pm. Fascinating exhibition from the institute's collections. It ranges from designs by the great Renaissance architect Andrea Palladio to John Jones's self-portrait. There is also a selection of models, books and manuscripts.

AEOP'S FABLES Pictorial Gallery, 16a Grafton Street, London W1 (493 0708). Until Jan 5, Mon-Fri 10am-5.45pm, Sat 11am-2pm. Mixed exhibition of gallery artists illustrating the fables: a great variety of styles, some amusing interpretations and one small, beautifully framed painting by Barry Castle which seems to capture Asop's enduring insight into human nature.

CHINESE ORNAMENT: THE LOTUS AND THE DRAGON British Museum, London WC1 (636 1655). Until May 6, Mon-Thu 10am-5pm, Sat 2-5pm. Fascinating journey through decorative motifs, from ancient Egypt and classical Greece to China. Lotus patterns and acanthus scrolls were appropriated by Chinese porcelain painters to wonderful effect.

WILLIAM MORRIS Graves Art Gallery, Surrey Street, Sheffield (0742 734781). Until Jan 6, Mon-Sat 10am-6pm, Sun 2-5pm. Celebrating the 150th anniversary of Morris's birth, the exhibition concentrates on his designs for carpets, embroidered linens, tapestries, stained glass and also his wallpaper and fabrics.

HENRI MATISSE: SCULPTURE AND DRAWINGS Hayward Gallery, South Bank, London SE1 (826 3144). Until Jan 6, Mon-Wed 10am-6pm, Thurs-Sat 10am-6pm, Sun noon-6pm. A show that concentrates on all the effort behind the apparently effortless masterpieces, representing work from every stage in Matisse's career.

together with models of set designs by Bridget Riley, Richard Smith and David Hockney celebrating 75 years of artists' involvement with ballet.

RICHARD HAMILTON: PRINTS 1930-63 Wadsworth Graphics, 2-4 Cork Street, London W1 (433 1866). Until Dec 22, Mon-Fri 10am-5.30pm, Sat 10am-1pm. Hamilton's impact comes from the juxtapositions of the bizarre and the commonplace. The show includes the famous prints of Marilyn Monroe, Bing Crosby and Mick Jagger... and the notorious vase of flowers.

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Sarah Jane Checkland and Prudence Hone



On tour: Rakusy, from the Josef Koudelka exhibition

### Photography

JOSEF KOUDELKA Cambridge Darkroom, Dale's Brewery, Gwydir Street, Cambridge (223 350725). Until Feb 3, Tues-Sat noon-8pm, Sun noon-6pm.

The best photographic exhibition of 1984 leaves London for a short provincial tour beginning in Cambridge. Although slightly condensed the prints lose none of their extraordinary power. Koudelka is a solitary figure who is difficult to pin down, living a nomadic existence in Europe, following gypsy festivals and religious events. His best known pictures are of these events but more personal works, still lifes and landscapes are also to be seen. Not to be missed.

NINE BY NINE Olympus Gallery, 24 Pinner Street, London W1 (481 7691). Until Jan 24, Mon-Fri 11am-6.30pm.

An assortment of photographs from some top names including Bailey, Lichfield, Larigue, Ralph Gibson and Don McCullin, each

contributing nine prints. Nebulous to say the least but some gold buried among the dross.

DUANE MICHALS Museum of Modern Art, 30 Pembroke Street, Oxford (865 72230). Until Feb 3, Tues-Sat 10am-6pm, Sun 2-5pm. Closed Dec 24-Jan 1.

This first one-man exhibition for Michals in the United Kingdom covers 1958-84 and includes early portraits and the more recent sequence photographs with texts. Often the texts seem more interesting than the conceived drama in the photographs.

SRI LANKA Terrace Entrance Foyer, National Theatre, South Bank, London SE1 (826 2252). From Thurs until Jan 25, Mon-Sat 10am-11pm. Tim Page made his reputation with photographic taken during the Vietnam war. This exhibition presents a more gentle side of his nature.

Photography: Michael Young. Dance: John Percival

### DANCE

No Christmas, it seems, is complete without The Nutcracker. This year there are three productions: a new one at Covent Garden, and revivals by Festival Ballet and the Scottish Ballet. But alternative choices are available, although in limited supply.

ROYAL BALLET Covent Garden (240 1066). Wed, Thurs at 7.30pm, Fri at 2.30 and 7.30pm. Peter Wright's new staging of *The Nutcracker*, with Gennadi Rozhdestvensky conducting, has its premiere Thurs at a royal gala for charity, with Lesley Collier and Anthony Dowell in the leads. Performances on Fri feature Ravenna Tuckwell and Jay Jolley (maestro), Fiona Chisholm and Wayne Eagling (eventing). On Wed, Bryony Brind and Jonathan Cope dance Swan Lake.

SADLER'S WELLS ROYAL BALLET Sadler's Wells (278 8916). Opens Tues until Jan 6. Mon-Sat (not Dec 24, 25) at 7.30pm, matinees Sat and Dec 26 at 2.30pm, Dec 19 at 2pm. The season opens with a mixed bill (Tues-Thurs) in which Ashton's *The Dream* is supported by MacMillan's *Concerto* and *Elle Syncope* plus Andre Prokoviev's *duet* *Vocalise*. Fri brings Coppola with Margaret Barrie, Alain Dubrault and David Bintley in the leads.

FESTIVAL BALLET Birmingham Hippodrome (021 622 7486). Today at 2.30 and 7.30pm. Today's performances of *The Nutcracker*, in Ronald Hynd's production, are danced by Lucia Triglia and Patrick Armand (maestro), Mary McManis and Peter Schaufuss (eventing).

SCOTTISH BALLET Glasgow, Theatre Royal (041-531 1234). Wed at 7.15pm, Matinee Sat at 2.15pm. Peter Darrell's production of *The Nutcracker* has designs by Philip Prowse and various casts.



Jean Michel Basquiat's rise has been as meteoric as any pop star's, writes Prudence Hone. An exhibition of his paintings opens today in London. Earlier this week he was completing a diptych for the show made from stabs of wood nailed on to a rigid framework reminiscent of the materials on which Basquiat began to paint - pavements, walls, hoardings, New York City, where he was born and he grew up, is alive with street art. Flashing signs, advertising posters and graffiti cover the city; subway trains are drenched with the hieroglyphs of a vivid culture in flux. Why or how the 24-year-old artist made the transition from the art of the streets to the rare atmosphere of galleries is unrecorded.

Jean Michel Basquiat: Paintings 1981-1984 opens at the ICA, The Mall, London SW1 today. Until Jan 27, Tues-Sun noon-9pm.

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## THE ARTS

**A Passage to India, Sir David Lean's first film for more than 10 years, opened yesterday in New York to great acclaim with special praise for Victor Banerjee as Aziz and Lean himself**

## A journey to the centre of the caves

After watching the first public performance of Santha Rana's dramatic adaptation of *A Passage to India* at Oxford in 1960, E. M. Forster, then 81 years old, walked on to the stage to express his pleasure with the performance.

"How good the actors were," said Forster, "and how pleased I am that there were so many of them. I am so used to seeing the sort of play which deals with one man and two women. They do not leave me with the feeling I have made a full theatrical meal. . . . They do not give me the experience of the multiplicity of life."

Forster, who died in 1970, might be equally pleased by most of Sir David Lean's recent work, which cites as its sources the play as well as the novel. The film is very much a "full theatrical meal" and it conveys a lot of "the multiplicity of life," one seldom sees on the screen these days.

Lean's *Passage to India*, which he wrote and directed, is by far his best work since *The Bridge on the River Kwai* and *Lawrence of Arabia* and perhaps his most humane and moving film since *Brief Encounter*. Though vast in physical scale and set against a tumultuous Indian background, it is also intimate, funny and moving in the manner of a film-maker completely in control of his material. Lean shares with Forster an appreciation for the difficulties involved in coping with the universe.

Because of the reputation the novel has acquired as a classic since its publication in 1924, one tends to forget what a smashing good story it is - a grandly sorrowful muddle that becomes a mystery for the saddest, nastiest of reasons.

Set in the fictitious provincial city of Chandrapore in the 1920s, when the British Raj was being threatened by the King-Emperor's increasingly impatient Indian subjects, *A Passage to India* is essentially a story of what can happen as a result of a succession of wrong-headed decisions and dreadful misunderstandings, of trust either given too easily or withheld far too long.

Though the initial scenes are set in London, the film really begins with the arrival in Chandrapore of the uncomely, middle-aged, kind and sensitive Mrs Moore (Peggy Ashcroft), who has come out from England to visit her son Ronny Heaslop (Nigel Havers), the British magistrate, and to chaperone Adela Quested (Judy Davis), the proper young Englishwoman to whom Ronny is unofficially engaged.

Almost immediately the liberal-minded Mrs Moore and Adela are upset by the cloistered life of the small, hopelessly genteel British colony at Chandrapore. They are appalled by the attitudes of their compatriots toward the Indians and by the total lack of interest in what Mrs Moore and Adela keep referring to as "the real India".



The approach to the Marabar Caves: Aziz (Victor Banerjee) offers a hand to Miss Quested (Judy Davis)

They have scarcely settled in at Chandrapore before Adela is speaking about the possibility of "adventures" to which Mrs Moore, similarly excited, adds that "adventures do occur, but not punctually".

They refuse to fall into the routine of cricket, polo and afternoon at the club followed by other members of this British station, with the help of the local school superintendent, Richard Fielding (James Fox).

Through Fielding, they meet an eccentric old Brahmin scholar, Professor Godbole (Alec Guinness), whose words of wisdom, being inscrutable, they hang on to with delight, and an earnest, eager-to-please young Muslim medical doctor named Aziz (Victor Banerjee), a hard-working, financially impoverished widower who both admires and loathes the British in Chandrapore.

Aziz, who must be one of fiction's most appealing and brave comic heroes, gets carried away by the unexpected friendliness of Mrs Moore and Adela at a small tea party. He invites them, along with Fielding and Professor Godbole, to go on an

elaborate outing he cannot afford, a day-long picnic to the Marabar Caves, always called "extraordinary" though for reasons that no one can satisfactorily explain.

The caves are not beautiful, they contain no sculpture or wall carvings and have absolutely no religious significance. Their importance seems to predate time.

The disastrous consequences of this outing, which occurs early in the film, set up everything that comes after, including an uproarious, agonizing courtroom melodrama during which Aziz is accused of the rape of the once dazzled, now nearly catatonic, Adela.

What happened in the Marabar Caves? That question pursued Forster throughout his life, and he always avoided answering.

In Lean's screenplay, which in most ways is remarkably faithful to the novel - it includes large swathes of very funny Forster dialogue - there is no longer much of a mystery. The audience knows, or at least thinks it knows, exactly what happened in the caves, which makes poor Aziz's trial even

more outrageous than it is in the novel.

This conscious decision on Lean's part subtly distorts the original, but it also emphasizes some surprising revelations about Adela. Even more peculiar is Lean's decision to withhold from the audience a scene in the novel that explains Mrs Moore's seemingly uncharacteristic actions preceding Aziz's trial.

Though he has made *A Passage to India* both more mysterious and more cryptic than the book, the film remains a wonderfully provocative tale, full of vivid characters, all played to near perfection.

At the film's centre is Banerjee's superb performance as Aziz, a mad mixture of foolishness, bravery, honour and anger. Judy Davis, the young Australian actress who first caught attention in *My Brilliant Career*, is far prettier than Forster's Adela, but she has a particular presence - like that of a younger, less abrasive Glenda Jackson - that helps make the film work.

The film's tone is set by the splendid Miss Ashcroft's Mrs Moore, whose self-assurance slowly ebbs as events and life overwhelm her.

Guinness does not exactly underact. There are times when his performance comes perilously close to a Peter Sellers impersonation, but still he is invigorating company. Equally good in less flamboyant roles are Fox and Havers, and the members of the huge supporting cast.

The film contains a rather major flaw, one that keeps a very good film from being great. Though *A Passage to India* is essentially a dark comedy of manners, Lean sometimes appears to think of it as a romance. In this he is being wrong-headed as the unfortunate Adela. This is the only explanation for the terrible Maurice Jarre score, which contradicts the images and sounds like a reworking of the music he wrote for Lean's unsuccessful *Ryan's Daughter*.

This score has nothing to do with Forster, India, the time or the story, but it has everything to do with movie-making in the 1960s, when soundtrack music first became a major element in the merchandizing of movies, including Lean's *Dr Zhivago*.

Vincent Canby

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## Television

## Nun in wonderland

When Genoveffa Cali was a girl, all she wanted to be was a nun. Her family - her father especially - did not approve, but she left Sicily for the convent. "It was like boarding a train that would take me to wonderland," she has been in wonderland for 35 years and still finds it an adventure, she said in BBC 2's *Italians*, produced by Anne Webber, last night.

There are 150,000 nuns in Italy, so it seemed reasonable to focus on one of them. Appropriately, The Sister of Spoleto was a comparatively subdued programme for this excellent series, though the phrase "quiet as a nun" would not be entirely apposite for the good sister.

She confessed as much: "When I was a novice, I was a disaster. I was always the one to break the rules, especially the rule of silence. I could never keep quiet, I could not even understand why I had to."

Her superiors obviously considered that, just as poachers are said to make good game-

keepers, talkative nuns are the ones to impress the virtues of silence on others. So Sister Genoveffa is now a novice mistress.

Her six charges seemed to bear the disciplines lightly and there was much laughing and joking in addition to being expressed simply and without embarrassment. Confronted with it, I thought the teenagers brought in from Spoleto to find out how the nuns live looked rather nonplussed.

Sister Genoveffa is not herself isolated from the world. She is a social worker and psychotherapist as well as a novice mistress and, we saw her counselling a married woman and a young couple visiting a mental hospital for women where she used to work.

She seemed an extremely happy woman. "A true vocation is like a dress that fits you well, you feel wonderful in it," she had explained when talking about her charges. It applied to her absolutely.

Dennis Hackett

## Radio

## Dr Johnson's two faces

One event has left its mark on two networks this week: the bicentenary of the death of Dr Samuel Johnson, and two things puzzle me in this matter.

First the nit-picking, pedantic, fussy little question of why neither of them managed to transmit their celebratory programmes on the day itself, namely December 13. Radio 3 chose the 11th, Radio 4 the 12th although at two hours the latter's offering was so very, very long that it missed running over into the proper day by a mere 105 minutes. Ah well, radio has always been slightly latitudinous in the next matter of anniversaries and I am resigned to the discovery of opening the commemoration on the 11th, that they have decided to commemorate the birth of Christ on December 23. It is after all an approximation anyway.

The other question, adumbrated in my remark about inordinate length, is why Radio 4's *A Life of Johnson* (a *Kaleidoscope* special compiled by John Wilders and produced by John Powell) conveyed a hazier and less remarkable portrait of the great man than Radio 3's *Samuel Johnson 1709-1784* (producer Philip French). The first of these surely had all the ingredients of memorable success - the full radio-dramatic armoury, a mosaic of scenes from the life, a rich weave of sound effects carefully chosen to suggest 18th-century London, a parade of Johnson's contemporaries. It all sounded very lively and authentic indeed if Johnson retained his Staffordshire accent, then David Buck who played him, made it authentic in that respect as well.

By contrast, Radio 3 gave us a perfectly straightforward assembly of utterances by scholars and others, rather flatly presented by Professor Christopher Ricks. They told us about the shortcomings of Boswell's well-known portrait - what facets of his subject it had underplayed or omitted altogether. We learned of his strong but undemonstrative religious feeling, his lifelong martyrdom to melancholy, his standing in his own times and today. Strikingly, these men and women spoke of him more than anything as if he were a man they had known personally and who had died only yesterday - to the extent that Hamilton's famous epitaph -

"On his death he made a chasm, which not only nothing could fill up, but which nothing has a tendency to fill up" - seemed to epitomize their own feelings too.

The same epitaph turned up on Radio 4, but there it sounded empty. Indeed, at no time, did *A Life of Johnson* capture and transmit this sense of the living man and I am really hard put to it to say why not. Could it have been quite simply that Mr Buck's accent was too unfamiliar, outside the convention? Or that his expansive rendering of the part repeatedly conjured up not Johnson but Falstaff, whom he has also played on radio? Are huge dramatic compilations not very good at living portraits unless the compiler is also a dramatist of considerable ability? Was there too much in text and production of the times and not enough of the life . . . ?

Whatever the explanation, Johnson's anniversary has come and gone. Meanwhile, may even reach an anniversary of its own, and radio might be forgiven on this occasion if, without awaiting the day itself, it had already set up as all-embracing an examination of that conflict and its background as it has just given to the life of the great and long-dead lexicographer. While we wait for that, it has fallen to Ray Gosling on Radio 4 and a Mrs Janet Arnold on BBC Radio Solent partially to repair the omission.

Mr Gosling in *Behind the Brazier* (December 9; producer, Liz Carney) spent time at Cortonwood where the trouble all began, while in *A Lady in the Valleys* (December 5 and 9) Mrs Arnold, a Winchester housewife, went with Peter White (whom Radio 4 listeners will know as the sharp and courteous blind presenter of the programme for the visually handicapped, *In Touch*) to the small Welsh mining town of Hirwaun. It was a thoroughly original and useful idea on the part of Solent to send a perfectly ordinary, middle-class, South of England lady and a very adept professional broadcaster to see a part of the battlefield for themselves and after four or five days I've no doubt that Mrs Arnold spoke the truth when she said that she went home with a few of her ideas rearranged.

David Wade

## Theatre

## Lovable Rousseau on an island of irony

**Melancholy Jacques Bush**

The Jacques of the title is Rousseau, pictured in solitary retreat in an island (composed of his favourite books), and absorbed in private reflections on the inequities of the theatre for the benefit of his surrounding audience.

First seen at Edinburgh in August, this cunning adaptation of two Rousseau texts offers the rare partnership between a

French director (Jean Jourdeuil) and a British actor (Simon Callow) in a masterly extension of Rousseau's self-portrait. It is a deeply affectionate picture, but its theatrical vitality derives from a persistently ironic treatment of the subject. No such show could have been assembled around a totally rustic reclusive like Thoreau. Comedy accrues to Jean-Jacques because, in retiring to the island of St Peter, he takes the civilized world along with him. Hence the books. Hence

the inspired touch of equipping him with a zip-up tent, a scene-break with quotations from Rousseau's own music, reminding him of the art he abandoned in pursuit of philosophy.

When it comes to philosophy, you find him launching into free-associative reverie on the harmful effects of theatrical performance while in the act of watering his plants, reaching the conclusion that theatre should be banned as he is left standing in a large puddle.

That example is too crude to represent the prevailing style of the performance, which takes its character from Rousseau's own confessional manner - sounding off against public abuses with full philosophical authority, while frankly exposing his own petty appetites, gloating over the

number of cherries he has promised himself, or emerging from the memory of a lost love to pen a high-toned letter to Frederick the Great.

Mr Callow projects that letter with all the comic resources of Victor Borge's articulated punctuation. At other times, testing out and repeating succulent paradoxes in bated breath, he seems more thoroughly blanketed in solitude than by his huge goatskin cloak.

I have never seen a more impressive demonstration of Stanislaslavsky's "circle of public solitude". Nor shall forget his closing lines: "I had a glimmer of talent. It came late. It died early. I am ashamed to survive it."

Irving Wardle

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## Concerts

**Philharmonia/Joo Barbican**

It was a clear crescendo mark of an evening. The audience was small and disgruntled; the programmes failed to arrive, having been sent to the Festival Hall in error; and, in their *Flute Music* Overture, it sounded very much as if the Philharmonia had gone there too. But by the end, we had heard an exciting, if flawed, Rachmaninov.

Concerto, and a performance of Tchaikovsky's Fifth Symphony which will remain in the memory long after the rest has faded.

The real sensation should doubtless have been the London concerto debut of the 24-year-old pianist, Hai-Kyung Suh. Born in Korea and trained in the United States, she has been carrying the Rachmaninov about in her suitcase ever since her second prize at the Munich Competition last year popped her on to the world map. Her obvious deep involvement in the work infuses it with a freshness and electric energy which has earned her high praise. But I wonder if it really does suit her so well?

The most distinctive, and beautiful, aspect of her performance was its slinky, sinuous cantabile, its delicious phrase shaping, its glistering prestissimo figuration. These qualities charged her rubato with instinctive musicality; but too often there was simply not the resonance, the breadth of either volume or interpretative vision fully to support and sustain it. Too much, and too much that was excellent, faded into middle distance. It is all a question of scale, at the moment the virtuosity of the performer - because it is stretched to the very limit - dominated the virtuosity of the music.

Aspyd Joo, who conducted, is barely more familiar to London audiences. If his account of the Tchaikovsky is anything to go by, then the Budapest Symphony Orchestra, to whom he has just been appointed principal guest conductor, have struck very lucky.

Hilary Finch

## YC&amp;T

Purcell Room

Three of the first six beneficiaries of Young Concert Artists Trust, modelled on an American scheme which has flourished for the past 20 years, reflected some of the amazing talent among young British musicians at their "presentation concert" on Wednesday. The Trust, with Sir Kenneth Robinson as chairman of a musically distinguished board of directors, and with charitable and business support will choose artists of international calibre at annual auditions to manage and guide "until ready to be taken up by commercial management".

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Beethoven: Piano Sonatas No. 23 "Appassionata" No. 15 "Pastorale" No. 14 "Moonlight" No. 8 "Pathétique" No. 26 "Les Adieux". 43434.	Schubert: "Trout" Quintet. Mozart: "Hunt" Quartet.	

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## FINANCE AND INDUSTRY

Executive Editor Kenneth Fleet

## A rare atmosphere at the equity peaks

The soaring rise in share prices yesterday took the indices to new closing peaks. The FT 30-share index was 7.8 higher at 935.4 and the FT-SE 100, in which British Telecom weighs an influential 5.5 per cent, closed 8.1 up at 1204.8.

The recent performance has confounded almost all professional forecasters who had expected the bull market to end in tears months ago. They are still not entirely happy, though their misgivings, for the time being, are reflected in the relative performance of gilt-edged securities, not in a firm disposition to sell ordinary shares.

The causes of unease cannot be shrugged off lightly. The pound is in poor shape - never a healthy sign. Oil prices are weak and threatening the free fall which Sir Peter Baxendale, of Shell, spoke of at the end of last week. Wall Street is wobbling. The latest money supply figures (sterling M3 rising by 2.75 per cent and well outside the target range) have cast a shadow. The only gilt-edged stocks to find favour are index-linked. In other words, notwithstanding yesterday's 4.9 per cent rise in the RPI and a lower figure in prospect for December, the professionals smell higher inflation next year.

This fear may be a factor in the strong performance of ordinary shares. Yesterday Imperial Chemical Industries bounced 24p higher to close at a new high of 712p on the news of its \$750 million (£630 million) acquisition of Beatrice Chemicals division. This is ICI's biggest acquisition for more than a decade. Sentiment is clearly strongly bullish. The easing of interest rates has helped. The weakness of sterling against the dollar continues to provide many companies with strong overseas earnings. There is also a lot of bid activity keeping share prices on the boil.

The really intriguing question is whether there are now forces at work in the market and if so, are they likely to remain. The response to the British Telecom offer far exceeded the most sanguine of expert forecasts. In the short run, money that was not taken up because of the rationing of BT allocations, is looking for, and finding, other homes. The second phenomenon is serious American interest in British equities. Of course the strength of the dollar has enabled Americans to play the currency option for all their worth. But beyond that, there may just be a more permanent conversion to investing here in those companies which have purged themselves of past guilt under Mrs Thatcher's recessionary lash.

For what it is worth, in real terms the FT-Actuaries All-Share index was at 100 in 1968; it peaked at 120 in the early 1970s; and is now just over 80. The real return on assets also tells a similar tale, with the peak returns in the late 1960s and early 1970s.

Conceptually, the market is undervalued.

## Distress sale at Charter

Charter Consolidated's sale of another tranche of its Minoro holding demonstrates how close is the ill-fated company to disposing of the family jewels to pay the rent. The question now is whether this divestment will be enough, or should we expect a continued erosion of Charter's net worth?

To be fair, and not to indulge merely in kicking a man when he is down, it must be said that Charter indicated three years ago its dissatisfaction with the Minoro holding. While forming a significant part of the company's assets the 9.7 per cent of

Minoro actually generated then a negative yield. A 1.8 per cent stake was sold last year. The seven million shares, about 4.2 per cent of Minoro, sold on Thursday, were yielding barely 2 per cent.

Charter also said this week when announcing its results in the wake of the Johnson Matthey and Cape Industries disasters, that asset disposals were under consideration. But the only item mentioned was the property at Ashford, Kent, which is in the books at £6 million.

The caveats duly entered the recent Minoro disposal smack of a distress sale. The £38 million gross raised indicates an average price of 54.3p, well below the 60.5p at which the stock closed on Wednesday. Charter must be grateful that the market is generally so strong, but its brokers could not have unloaded more shares without widening the discount. Anglo American might not have been delicious about breaking one of the cross-holdings which bind it together.

## Who will succeed if McMahon goes?

Speculation about the succession to Mr Christopher "Kit" McMahon as Deputy Governor of the Bank of England is concentrated on two internal candidates, Mr Eddie George and Mr David Walker. Mr McMahon, whose five-year term ends early in the New Year, is only 57, and possesses an international reputation for an intellectual understanding of central banking which is an asset to the Bank.

But since he was passed over for the governorship by Mrs Thatcher, there have been rumours that he would choose to leave for either academic or private financial pastures and these have been recently reinforced by rumours that he might be made the politicians' scapegoat for what they see as the Bank's mishandling of the Johnson Matthey affair.

The likeliest outcome is that if Mr McMahon wants to stay, he will survive. Meanwhile, there is speculation about another outside appointment to the Bank. But the liveliest debate concerns the relative merits of Mr George and Mr Walker, both executive directors of the Bank and in their mid-40s.

It had earlier seemed that Mr George was easily the front-runner. At the time of the Thatcher Government's worst rows with the Bank, during the darkest failure of monetary control in 1980, Mr George was the acceptable face of Threadneedle Street, liked by the Prime Minister and admired in the Treasury. But Walker has, it seems, been making strides in the succession stakes.

Mr Walker is not man and boy a Bank man; he progressed up the Treasury ladder until transferring to the City end of the public sector in 1977.

Now he is the Bank's articulate operator in the game of change being played out in the securities market.

But Mr George is fundamentally the stronger candidate; a man of formidable judgment and experience of the gilt market, which beneath his general responsibilities for monetary policy is a central part of his Bank domain. It is Mr George, beyond anyone else in the Bank, who has seen Mr Robin Leigh-Pemberton safely along his learning curve as Governor. It would be an unfair quirk of fate that could see Mr George, who has long been talked of as a future internal candidate for the Governorship, lose out to Mr Walker in the competition for deputy.

## Hanson Trust makes £151m bid for Powell Duffryn

By Philip Robinson

Lord Hanson looked set last night to fight his second British takeover battle in a year as his Hanson Trust conglomerate launched a £151 million offer for Powell Duffryn, the fuel distribution group.

The bid was launched as the market opened yesterday morning and within hours a Duffryn spokesman said: "This is an unsolicited offer. We are consulting our advisers, shareholders are urged to do nothing."

Lord Hanson has asked to see Duffryn's chairman, Lord Sandon, to discuss the offer. No contact had been made before it was launched.

Hanson is offering four of its shares for every three Duffryn shares. At Hanson's price, unchanged at 289p, the Duffryn shares are valued at 385p. The shares were standing 35p above the offer price last night.

Hanson says it will make an appropriate offer to preference shareholders, but has not given a cash alternative.

Duffryn's shares have come up sharply this week. They started the week ex-dividend at 320p.

Hanson Trust has held Duffryn shares since the summer last year. It has sold some and now owns 3.69 per cent. It had been expected that Hanson would make a move at some stage, but most felt he would wait until after the miner's strike.

Lord Hanson said yesterday: "Our reason for acting swiftly is the recent speculative increase in Duffryn's share price, an increase we feel not substantiated by any relevant progress in the company. He added: "I believe Powell Duffryn's activities will integrate well with those of Hanson Trust."

Mr Martin Taylor, a Hanson director said: "I think we are thinking more of integrating our management style."

A statement Duffryn said: "As the board only received this unwelcome and clearly inadequate bid this morning, it is



Lord Sandon: no contact before Hanson bid.

not yet in a position to make a detailed response."

Duffryn last month reported pretax profits down from £6.83 million to £6.05 million. The shipping side showed a loss of £2 million. The news disappointed the market, despite the 5p interim dividend being

maintained. For the previous year Duffryn's profits were £18.3 million, from which it paid total dividends of 16p.

It reported then that shipping was expected to perform better and engineering continued to improve, but bulk liquid storage was finding hiring of its tankers more difficult.

Hanson's profits for the year to the end of December jumped 86 per cent to a record £169 million in its twenty-first year of trading. Lord Hanson said then that the Trust will "start the New Year with more resources than ever."

This time last year, it was entering what eventually became a £247 million contested bid for London Brick. The final price paid by Hanson was 45 per cent higher than its opening bid.

He eventually won the battle in March. The acquisition gave him 40 per cent of the overall market and a monopoly in fleeton bricks.

Tempos, page 21

## Record day for shares

The pound gained 20 points to \$1.1920 against the dollar yesterday, although its general tone was weak. At noon, the sterling index dropped to 74.1, close to its record low of 74.0, before recovering to 74.2 by the close, which represented a fall of 0.1 on the day. The pound lost 0.4 pence against the mark, at DM3.6895. The gold price fell \$2.75 on the day, to \$322.50.

The stock market shrugged off uncertainties about the pound. The FT-SE 100 index closed at a high of 1204.8, up 8.1, after reaching 1207.9 during the day. The FT 30-share index closed at 935.4, up 7.8 and also a record.

## Profits dip

Intasun Leisure, the package holiday group, made pretax profits of £16.5 million in the six months to September 30 against £20 million in the previous first half. The interim dividend was raised to 2p net from 1.8p.

Tempos, page 21

## Phoenix slips

Phoenix Timber is to pay an unchanged interim dividend of 1.5p for the six months trading to September 30, after pretax profits slipped from £527,000 to £427,000. Sales totalled £22.8 million, nearly £2 million down on last year's £24.4 million. Phoenix is not making a profits forecast for the full year, but avers that the downward movement in interest rates, if sustained, should boost the construction sector's confidence. The board sees the interim figures as satisfactory.

Tempos, page 21

## Johnson vote

Employee shareholders at Johnson Group Cleaners voted overwhelmingly against the proposal to amend the company's articles of association to enable employee shares to be transferred. The defeat of the proposal at yesterday's extraordinary meeting is a blow to Nottingham Manufacturing, the textile company which is bidding £44 million for Johnson.

## Oil pricing

The Select Committee on Energy believes that the Government has a policy for North Sea oil prices, contrary to an impression given yesterday. It also said it would be unacceptable for the Government to continue financial support for the British National Oil Corporation unless it was prepared to use BNOOC to support oil prices.

## Fall in food prices cuts inflation to 4.9%

By David Smith

The rate of inflation fell to 4.9 per cent last month, from 5 per cent in October. A larger fall is expected for this month's figure, as cheaper mortgages affect the retail prices index.

The retail prices index rose by 0.3 per cent between October and November, taking the index to 358.3 from 357.7. During the previous six months prices had risen by an average of 0.4 per cent a month.

In November, higher telephone charges, the remaining effects of the August rise in mortgage rates, and increased prices for newspapers, cigarettes and imported coal, added to inflation. There was a 1 per cent fall in seasonal food prices, partly offsetting these increases, notably in potatoes and other fresh vegetables, with a 0.6 per cent drop in the average price of alcoholic drinks, as a result of discounting by retailers.

A drop in the inflation rate for December is virtually guaranteed by the 1 per cent average fall in mortgage rates, which will reduce the index by 0.3 per cent.

The Treasury, in its autumn statement, forecast an inflation rate of 4.75 per cent for the fourth quarter of 1984. To achieve this exactly would require a December rate of 4.3 to 4.4 per cent.

Britain's inflation rate of 4.9 per cent in November compared with an EEC average of 5.7 per cent in October. The rate is still significantly above the United States, 3.2 per cent, Germany, 2.1 per cent, and Japan 1.9 per cent.

INFLATION RATES (%)	
Italy	9.4
France	7.0
Belgium	5.3
UK	4.9
USA	3.2
Netherlands	3.1
Germany	2.1
Japan	1.9
EEC average	5.7
EEC average	5.7

\*All October, except United Kingdom. Source: Department of Employment

## Defence firms seek more state backing

By John Lawless

The Government is investigating the possibility of setting up an equivalent of the Export Credits Guarantee Department purely for military equipment sales abroad.

Defence companies have been telling the Government for some time that the present British structure for funding and insuring exports is out-of-date, and that multi-million pound deals are being lost to competitors such as the US and France, as a result.

They have called for a similar set-up for finance to that in the United States, where, once a sale has been negotiated, the government buys the equipment direct from manufacturers and sells it on to a foreign government. They have also urged that ministers adopt a far more aggressive stance selling overseas.

"This has been a forte of the French," said a senior aerospace executive yesterday. "A mission of industrialists will often be led by a minister, who really does go out and sell. That would be unthinkable in this country."

That lesson appears to have been rammed home recently. Mr Michael Heseltine, the

## Telecom hits BSA receipts

By Richard Thomson

Withdrawals of deposits by investors in British Telecom shares cut building societies' net receipts in November to £363 million, compared with record inflows for October of £1.1 billion. The decline, representing a loss of deposits of about £500 million, was about £100 million greater than expected.

October's figure was inflated by people "parking" their money in building societies before applying for Telecom shares. November's figures are usually depressed for seasonal reasons but were further hit by cuts in deposit rates during this month. The Building Societies Association said:

However, Mr Richard Weir, secretary general of the BSA, said the societies expect to regain some of the lost funds this month as cheques are returned to investors who did not receive as many Telecom shares as they requested. They also expect deposits from people selling their shares. The societies anticipate inflows of £600 million to £700 million in December.

Despite the reduced receipts, mortgage lending in November remained almost unchanged.

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## November upturn for US output

From Bailey Morris Washington

US industrial production increased by 0.4 per cent last month, after two months of steady decline - in another sign of renewed growth in the economy in recent weeks.

At the same time, the Commerce Department announced that the US Producer Price Index rose by 0.5 per cent last month - for the first time since July. It was the largest monthly increase in the index, which measures the wholesale inflation rate, since last January, when it rose by 0.6 per cent.

The rise in producer prices supports this week's finding of a larger-than-expected jump in retail sales in November and points to what may be a new phase of consumer growth triggered by the Federal Reserve Board's easier monetary controls.

Industrial production of consumer goods rose by a full one per cent last month, largely on the strength of a sharp rebound in cars which increased by 7.5 per cent.

Meanwhile, business inventories increased for the sixteenth consecutive month, rising by 0.8 per cent of \$4.7 billion in October.

The rise in production, retail sales and prices after a big drop in the unemployment rate last month leads many to conclude that the economy, which has been in a sharp slowdown in recent months, is still on a growth course.

## Talks continue on Hambro bid

Mr Mark Weinberg, who built the insurance group Hambro Life from scratch, was still locked in talks yesterday to decide the future of the £600 million business.

But while stock market rumour continued to link BAT Industries and the American banking group Citicorp, there was speculation over the future of Mr Weinberg.

He holds a stake worth £10 million in the group and while any bidder would no doubt be happy to see him carry on in his present role some sources were suggesting he may be ready to accept another challenge.

## Maxwell rules out bonus

By Cliff Feltham

Mr Robert Maxwell, publisher of the Daily Mirror, is being branded a "scrooge" by his printing workers for refusing to give them a Christmas bonus.

The 1,370 employees at his Odhams-Sun works at Watford had been expecting up to £200 each as part of a £1 million handout planned by the parent British Printing and Communications Corporation.

But now Mr Maxwell has decided not to pay them anything because the plant has failed to meet its profit targets.

Mr Reginald Mogg, managing director of Odhams-Sun, said: "The bonuses are not being paid because the criteria laid

down by Mr Maxwell has not been met. The profit targets have been missed by a wide margin."

Mr Mogg, who announced the decision to the work-force, admitted it had caused "some disappointment." It is understood several other parts of the BPCC empire, Funnells in Bristol, the Chromo works in the Midlands, and the East Kilbride plant, which prints the Radio Times, are being written off Mr Maxwell's Christmas list.

Last year all employees in BPCC received a bottle of whisky at Christmas. The Year before bonuses of about £150 were paid.

## MARKET SUMMARY

STOCK MARKETS		MAIN PRICE CHANGES		CURRENCIES	
FT Ind Ord	935.4(+7.8)	RISES:		London:	£ \$1.1920(+0.0020)
FT-A All Share	1,204.8(+8.1)	J Cauton	103p+20p	DM	£ 3.8895(-0.0040)
FT Govt Securities	82.34(+0.24)	Powell Duffryn	420p+84p	Sfr	£ 3.0490(+0.0035)
FT-SE 100	1,204.8(+8.1)	Metal Sciences	14p+2p	FFr	£ 11.3125(-0.01)
Bargains	27.82	United Spring	18p+2p	Yen	£ 295.35(+0.85)
Dataseam USM	108.40(+0.74)	VW Thermux	136p+18p	Index	74.2(-0.1)
New York		Cifer	26p+3p		
Dow Jones	1,175.90(+7.07)	Peck Holdings	26p+3p		
Tokyo		Audiotronic	5 1/2p+1p		
Nikkei Dow	11,419.15(+79.10)	Rotaprint	8p+1p		
Hong Kong		The Body Shop	47p+45p		
Hang Seng	1,142.09(+15.60)	Equity & Law Life	27 1/2p+2 1/2p		
Amsterdam	178.1(-0.4)	Breville Europe	113p+1p		
Sidney:					
Frankfurt					
Commerzbank	1,077.8(-6.9)				
Brussels:		FALLS:			
General	157.1(-1.49)	Portland Holdings	3p-2p		
Paris: CAC	180.7(-0.2)	Cecil Gee	180p-10p		
Zurich:		Movionline	113p-15p		
SKA General	318.30(-0.50)	Siemens	16p-2p		
		Double Eagle	25p-3p		
		Marsay Docks	37p-3p		
		Yorkshire Chemicals	55p-5p		
		Feedex Agricultural	33p-2p		

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INTEREST RATES  
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Bank Rate: 9 3/4%-9 3/4%  
3-month Interbank 9 3/4%-9 3/4%  
3-month eligible bills 9 1/2%-9 3/4%  
buying rate  
US:  
Prime Rate 11.25-11.50  
Federal Funds 8 1/4%  
3-month Treasury Bills 8.04-8.00%  
Long bond yield 10 1/2%-10 7/8%







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The fund invests in ordinary shares with the aim of achieving a yield about 50 per cent above that of the FT All Share Index, coupled with long term growth.

The fund was launched on 26th October at a price of 50p per unit. On 4th December the offer price per unit was 54.2p. The estimated gross yield was 6.43 per cent. The manager judges that at this level there are good prospects of growth both of income and capital.

Investors are reminded, however, that the price of units and the income from them can go down as well as up.

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Year	Original investment of £2,000	Net Income Value at 1 November
1972	—	2,416
1973	94.80	2,360
1974	96.00	1,168
1975	104.40	2,120
1976	132.00	1,944
1977	145.20	3,760
1978	214.80	4,368
1979	230.40	4,472
1980	266.68	4,824
1981	269.28	4,872
1982	299.04	5,880
1983	329.64	7,008
1984	357.96	9,096

The original investors are now enjoying a gross yield of 25.6 per cent on their investment. Their capital has increased in value by over 350 per cent.

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## HOW TO INVEST

To purchase units in Framlington Monthly Income Fund you must complete an application form and send it to us with your cheque. The details of your bank account must be included. Units are allocated at the price ruling on receipt of your application.

The minimum initial investment is £2,000. Subsequent additions must be for at least £1,000. Investments of

£15,000 or more qualify for a bonus of 1 1/4% additional units, as do units issued in exchange for shares or other unit trusts.

Your first distribution will be made on the next distribution day after your units have been held for one month.

## GENERAL INFORMATION

Applications will be acknowledged; certificates will be sent by the registrar, Lloyds Bank Plc, normally within 6 weeks.

Prices and yields are published daily in leading newspapers.

The annual charge is 10% + VAT of the value of the fund. The trust deed includes powers to increase the charge to a maximum of 1% if necessary. The initial charge (included in the offer price) is 5%.

When units are sold back to the managers payment is normally made within 7 days of receipt of your request for certificates.

Commission is paid to qualified intermediaries. Rates are available on request.

The fund is an authorised unit trust constituted by Trust Deed. The Trustee is Lloyds Bank Plc. It ranks as a wider range security under the Trustee Investments Act 1961.

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The managers are Framlington Unit Management, 3 London Wall Buildings, London EC2M 3JQ. Telephone: 01-628 5181. Registered in England No 897241. Member of The Unit Trust Association.

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First name(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_

Monthly distributions should be credited to the following bank account:  
Bank Sorting Code \_\_\_\_\_ (Shown in top right hand corner of your cheque)  
Bank \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_

Account Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
Account Number \_\_\_\_\_  
Signature(s) \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

(Joint applicants should all sign and attach details separately)

MONTHLY INCOME FUND

## SHARE SWAPPING

## Unit trusts out in force to woo British Telecom investors

There is no shortage of buyers for your spare British Telecom shares and many financial institutions are keen to offer special deals to those who want to sell. Maggie Drummond has been investigating the unit trust "share exchange" schemes available.

What are you going to do with your British Telecom shares? Sell them for a quick profit? Hold on to them? Or will you be lured by the unit trust industry, out in force this weekend hoping to persuade first-time shareholders to reinvest the lot with them?

Almost all unit trust groups offer share exchange schemes through which investors can effectively swap a portfolio of individual shares for the equivalent value of units in a fund of their choice.

The normal criterion for minimum portfolio size varies from group to group. But several are reducing their minima especially for British Telecom shareholders - partly because the unit trust funds want more British Telecom shares - partly because dealing with one share is administratively cheap - and partly because the "Telecom" flotation was expected to whet the appetite for other forms of equity investment.

Not everyone agrees with this latter point. "As far as the creation of wider share ownership is concerned, British Telecom is a red herring," says Mr Tony Daggart of Save & Prosper. S & P will accept a minimum of 400 Telecom shares, at the offer price, in exchange for units (also at the higher offer price) in one of its funds.

Target considers that it will take a smaller number than that from investors who want to swap for its Equity Fund. Mr Andrew McKinnon of Target says: "We think that first-time shareholders should have the chance to follow one of the fundamental rules of investment and spread their risks by switching money to unit trusts".

Other groups shy away from plugging this line because of the Government's reluctance to create and maintain a new class of small shareholder. But by picking a unit trust group with a small minimum portfolio or a special Telecom share deal even the most modest Telecom holder will be able to effect a share exchange.

The main advantage for the Telecom shareholder is that a switch avoids commission costs on any sale. The disadvantage is that by going into the unit trust you effectively "lose" between 5 and 7 per cent on the spread

between the unit trust's bid and offer price. And investors should note that a share exchange counts as a disposal for capital gains tax purposes, although this has practical significance only for those with total profits of more than £5,600 in the present tax year.

But anyone exchanging a larger portfolio into unit trusts could well run up against this problem. Usually the unit trust group can arrange to stagger the exchange over two years.

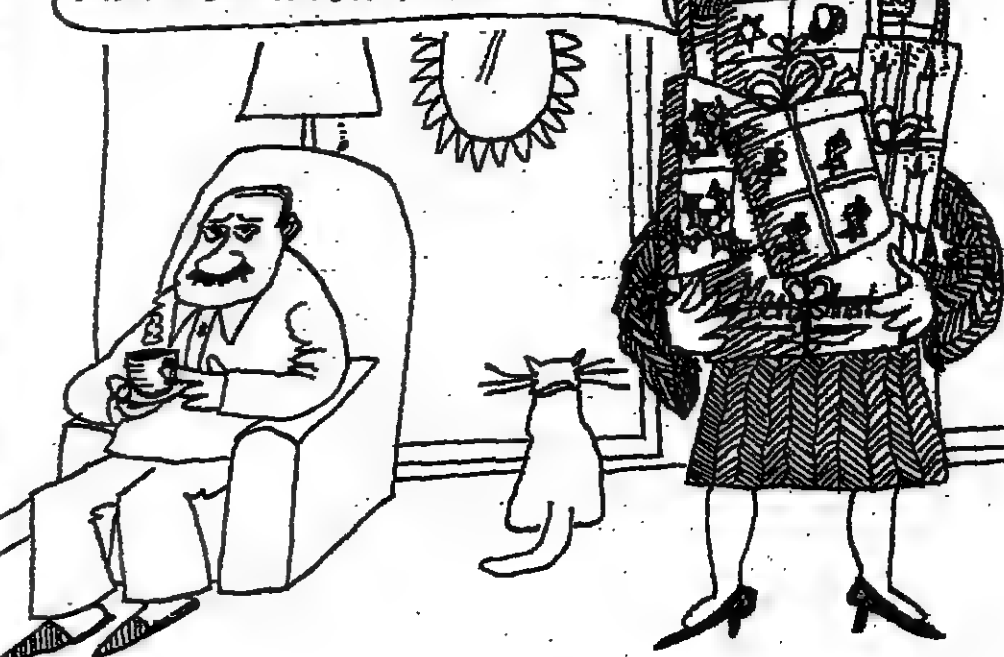
British Telecom apart, unit trust groups report brisk business in share exchange, despite the efforts of stockbrokers to attract private clients.

As a general rule shares that can be added to existing holdings in the unit trust funds are exchanged at the full offer price with no commission payable. But holdings that the unit trust managers do not want will be sold and investors will be exchanged at the lower bid price.

Usually brokerage and sale costs will be covered by the unit trust group but not always. M & G, for instance, will cover selling costs for bargains only in individual shares of £1,000 or more and some other groups have similar rules for shares they do not want in their own funds.

So before you swap your ragbag of obscure penny stocks for a unit trust, ask carefully about the precise terms of the deal.

I THOUGHT I'D HELP YOU DECIDE WHAT TO DO WITH OUR TELECOM SHARES...



Smith

## Share exchange schemes

Unit trust group	Minimum portfolio	Special
Save & Prosper	£2,500	British Telecom offer
Target	£2,500	400 shares exchange
Britannia	£500	Any number exchange
Arbutnot Latham	£500	NO
Allied Hambros	£250	Any number exchange
Fidelity	£1,000	£500
M&G	£500 or 100 unit trust units	NO

## MORTGAGES

## Professionals prefer repayment loans

National & Provincial's home-buying customers earn an average £9,514 a year, purchase a modern (1976-1982) semi-detached property for £29,621, and take out an endowment mortgage of £20,682 to pay for it.

National & Provincial is one of the few building societies able to survey its customers according to occupation. Its survey shows, predictably, that top management and professional groups buy the most expensive properties, but borrow less of the purchase price (61 per cent) as an advance, compared with junior and middle management (69.5 per cent), manual workers (77.3 per cent) and the services industry group (76.8 per cent).

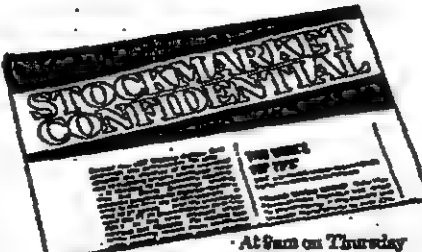
Perhaps the most interesting statistic is that self-employed, top management and professionals have a higher proportion of repayment rather than endowment mortgages (about 30 per cent), while only 16 per cent of manual workers and 17 per cent of the services group prefer repayment loans.

This would indicate that professionals believe that a repayment loan is a better deal. Manual workers have been "sold" the endowment method.

Vicars and ministers, along with students and trainees, buy expensive property in relation to their income, but students and trainees obtain a higher advance.

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## PROFIT RECORD

SINCE 19th SEPTEMBER 1984

It's all very well knowing what to buy - the real secret is knowing what to sell. This is our full "sell" record since the 19th September 1984:

Share	Buy Price	Sold Price	% Gain
Lancashire Group	37p	39p	5.4%
Ratcliffe (GB)	86p	1.17p	31%
Chubb & Co.	1.25p	2.85p	128%
John Walker	1.55p	2.55p	65%
Dynal Packing	1.85p	1.85p	0%
Manchester City Council	1.44p	2.45p	70%
SSO International	17p	20p	18%
C.B. Bailey	10p	20p	100%
London & Commercial Holdings	37p	1.55p	488%
Coltson Group	1.40p	4.95p	254%
Elton and Robinson	50p	1.55p	3%
Ryan Hotels	86p	1.875p	128%
Haynes Publishing	1.25p	2.55p	104%

\* All percentage gains allow for dealing costs.

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\* "Lunchtime before other subscribers push up the price"

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\* Investment analysis including gold, building societies and gilts

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THE TIMES  
Portfolio

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If it matches you have won outright or a share of the total daily prize money stated. If you are a winner follow the claim procedure on the back of your card.

No.	Company	Year or less
1	BUILDING & ROADS	
2	Tarmac	
3	HAT	
4	Taylor Woodrow	
5	Dew (George)	
6	Brownlie	
7	Wampy (George)	
8	Amec	
9	Rine Circle	
10	BPI Industries	
11	Blockleys	
12	FOODS	
13	Tesco	
14	Hillards	
15	Avoca	
16	Mathews (Bernard)	
17	Belam	
18	Ud Group	
19	Kennedy	
20	Balfour Beatty	
21	Normans	
22	Ascor Dairies	
23	Trakal House	
24	Scars	
25	Simon Eng	
26	Edgewood	
27	Stitchley	
28	Whitmore Reeve	
29	Spartan Sars	
30	Urbicon	
31	Sulway	
32	Sale Tolley	
33	PROPERTY	
34	Warner	
35	Bilton (P)	
36	Long Prop	
37	Centromar	
38	Long Prop	
39	Revel	
40	Bradford	
41	Evans of Leeds	
42	Lytton	
43	Town Centre	

Weekly Dividend

Please make a note of your daily totals for the weekly dividend of £20,000 in today's newspaper.

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	TOTAL

Claimants should ring 0254-53272

## BRITISH FUNDS

1984	High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yld	P/E
1	100	95	British Fund	100	5	10	10%	10
2	105	100	British Fund	105	5	10	10%	10
3	110	105	British Fund	110	5	10	10%	10
4	115	110	British Fund	115	5	10	10%	10
5	120	115	British Fund	120	5	10	10%	10
6	125	120	British Fund	125	5	10	10%	10
7	130	125	British Fund	130	5	10	10%	10
8	135	130	British Fund	135	5	10	10%	10
9	140	135	British Fund	140	5	10	10%	10
10	145	140	British Fund	145	5	10	10%	10

## FIVE TO FIFTEEN YEARS

1984	High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yld	P/E
1	150	145	Five to Fifteen	150	5	10	10%	10
2	155	150	Five to Fifteen	155	5	10	10%	10
3	160	155	Five to Fifteen	160	5	10	10%	10
4	165	160	Five to Fifteen	165	5	10	10%	10
5	170	165	Five to Fifteen	170	5	10	10%	10
6	175	170	Five to Fifteen	175	5	10	10%	10
7	180	175	Five to Fifteen	180	5	10	10%	10
8	185	180	Five to Fifteen	185	5	10	10%	10
9	190	185	Five to Fifteen	190	5	10	10%	10
10	195	190	Five to Fifteen	195	5	10	10%	10

## OVER FIFTEEN YEARS

1984	High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yld	P/E
1	200	195	Over Fifteen	200	5	10	10%	10
2	205	200	Over Fifteen	205	5	10	10%	10
3	210	205	Over Fifteen	210	5	10	10%	10
4	215	210	Over Fifteen	215	5	10	10%	10
5	220	215	Over Fifteen	220	5	10	10%	10
6	225	220	Over Fifteen	225	5	10	10%	10
7	230	225	Over Fifteen	230	5	10	10%	10
8	235	230	Over Fifteen	235	5	10	10%	10
9	240	235	Over Fifteen	240	5	10	10%	10
10	245	240	Over Fifteen	245	5	10	10%	10

## INDEX-UNITED

1984	High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yld	P/E
1	250	245	Index-United	250	5	10	10%	10
2	255	250	Index-United	255	5	10	10%	10
3	260	255	Index-United	260	5	10	10%	10
4	265	260	Index-United	265	5	10	10%	10
5	270	265	Index-United	270	5	10	10%	10
6	275	270	Index-United	275	5	10	10%	10
7	280	275	Index-United	280	5	10	10%	10
8	285	280	Index-United	285	5	10	10%	10
9	290	285	Index-United	290	5	10	10%	10
10	295	290	Index-United	295	5	10	10%	10

## BANKS DISCOUNT HP

1984	High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yld	P/E
1	300	295	Banks Discount	300	5	10	10%	10
2	305	300	Banks Discount	305	5	10	10%	10
3	310	305	Banks Discount	310	5	10	10%	10
4	315	310	Banks Discount	315	5	10	10%	10
5	320	315	Banks Discount	320	5	10	10%	10
6	325	320	Banks Discount	325	5	10	10%	10
7	330	325	Banks Discount	330	5	10	10%	10
8	335	330	Banks Discount	335	5	10	10%	10
9	340	335	Banks Discount	340	5	10	10%	10
10	345	340	Banks Discount	345	5	10	10%	10

## STOCK EXCHANGE PRICES

## Another new peak

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, Dec 10. Dealings End, Dec 21. Contango Day, Dec 24. Settlement Day, Jan 7.

Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

1984	High	Low	Company	Price	Chg	Div	Yld	P/E
1	100	95	British Fund	100	5	10	10%	10
2	105	100	British Fund	105	5	10	10%	10
3	110	105	British Fund	110	5	10	10%	10
4	115	110	British Fund	115	5	10	10%	10
5	120	115	British Fund	120	5	10	10%	10
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9	140	135	British Fund	140	5	10	10%	10
10	145	140	British Fund	145	5	10	10%	10

THE TIMES  
Portfolio

DAILY DIVIDEND  
£4,000

WEEKLY DIVIDEND  
£20,000

Claims required for  
+39 points

Claims required for  
+133 points

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FOOTBALL: TOTENHAM WILL NOT BE ABLE TO RELAX AGAINST REAL MADRID

English clubs on course to dominate Europe

By Stuart Jones Football Correspondent

England, who threatened to collect all three Continental trophies in 1984, yesterday drew a step closer to becoming the dominant force in Europe in 1985. The four first division clubs, the largest contingent to represent a nation in the quarter-finals, have all avoided colliding with those considered to be their strongest rivals in the next round in March.

Liverpool will face Juventus in the Super Cup final, which is to be staged in Turin on January 16. They may yet again meet over two legs later in the European Cup but Liverpool, the holders, were particularly relieved to have stayed clear of them because Delgado is suspended for the next three games.

If the Italian defence is formidable, Austria Vienna's is at least accomplished. It includes the national sweeper and goalkeeper. The elegant Hungarian, Nyilasi, is another influential member of a side that lost to Tottenham Hotspur in last season's UEFA Cup quarter-final but led their League before going indoors to keep fit during the winter hibernation.

Liverpool will be visiting Austria for the first time on March 6, but their hosts are likely to be playing on unfamiliar ground as well. Since their own arena has a capacity of only 10,000, they are expected to hold the match in the nearby

earlier this season given a glimpse of the future.

Tottenham, involved in the most glamorous tie of the round, meet Real Madrid in the Bernabeu stadium last September in a testimonial game. They lost 1-0. Without the suspended Roberts in the first leg, they can scarcely relax whatever their lead. Real, lying second in the Spanish League behind Barcelona, have twice recovered from 3-0 deficits in the UEFA Cup.

United will return to Hungary six months after knocking out Raba Vass in the first round. Goals are again the most predictable feature of their tie against the League leaders. Under Ferenc Kovacs, Videoton have become an equally adventurous side, beating Paris St Germain 5-0 at home and Paris St Germain 4-2 away.

Quarter-final draws

European Cup  
Austria Vienna v Liverpool  
Barcelona v Dinamo Moscow  
Göteborg v Panathinaikos  
Juventus v Sparta Prague  
Cup Winners' Cup  
Bayern Munich v Roma  
Dynamo Dresden v Rapid Vienna  
Everton v Fortuna Sittard  
Sparta v Dynamo Moscow  
UEFA Cup  
Internationale v Cologne  
Manchester United v Videoton  
Tottenham Hotspur v Real Madrid  
Zeleznik v Dynamo Moscow  
First leg matches on March 6, second leg on March 20.

As a bonus, two of Everton's leading challengers were drawn against each other. Although Bayern Munich, the West German leaders, have the disadvantage of playing the first leg at home, they should prove too strong for Roma, last season's European Cup finalists and the conquerors of Wembley in the round.

Tottenham, the holders of the UEFA Cup, and Manchester United avoided both an unfortunate domestic argument and a fearsome fixture against Internazionale of Milan. Their ties may appear to be the most difficult of the four, but at least the English representatives were

Walsh may tilt odds in Liverpool's favour

By Clive White

The team news emanating from Anfield yesterday was the most significant since Ian Rush's return from injury was announced. October 10, Fagan, the Liverpool manager, has decided that Paul Walsh is fit enough for action and has named him as substitute against Aston Villa at Villa Park today.

With odds already at a mean 4-1 against Liverpool, the Liverpool manager, has decided that Paul Walsh is fit enough for action and has named him as substitute against Aston Villa at Villa Park today. With odds already at a mean 4-1 against Liverpool, the Liverpool manager, has decided that Paul Walsh is fit enough for action and has named him as substitute against Aston Villa at Villa Park today.

Today they will again be without Lawton against Aston Villa. Liverpool Cup winners in considerably more trouble than they have been themselves. The decision of Graham Turner, Villa's manager, to top their most gifted young player, Collins, is either a brave or foolhardy one.

A victory for Liverpool is still likely to leave them a little short of the leaders, since the five are all contemplating a three-point bonus. The tasks of Tottenham Hotspur and Arsenal, though, are far from a formality. Even at home, Arsenal, in their present form, will find it difficult to outpace a West Bromwich Albion side who are confident that they could become the seventh side to lead the table by Christmas. The victory over lowly Watford last week should not be underestimated. It was their fifth win in five games.

They have the chance to ask for personal hearings, and it is unlikely they will be dealt with before Christmas, an FA spokesman said. Under FA rules the players can be warned, fined or suspended - or a combination of all three.

Les Chappell, Swansea City's caretaker manager, says Colin Appleton was dismissed last week, was himself removed yesterday. Chappell expressed disappointment that he had not been considered for the manager's job, now on offer to John Bond.

Referees may soon have pre-match talks with teams in an attempt to bridge the gap between players and officials. They will also be encouraged to visit clubs at their training grounds and talk with staff. These are two possibilities to arise from the formation of a new League body, covering officials, players and managers. The body, the Football League Liaison Panel was launched at a meeting in London.

Bill Kellock, given a free transfer by Southampton after being sent off against Tranmere Rovers on December 1, has been offered a contract by Port Vale until the end of the season.

Len Walker, dismissed as manager of Aldershot last month, is preparing a writ against the club, alleging breach of contract.

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SHOW JUMPING



In their stride: Hugo Simon and Lucky on the way to third place (Photograph: Ian Stewart)

Agile Smith at the double

By Jenny MacArthur

Harvey Smith gave an appreciative crowd an impressive show of agility when he won the Cognac Courvoisier Two-Horse Stakes at the Olympia show jumping championships yesterday. The competition took the form of a relay in which each competitor rode two horses. After completing the course the rider changed over to his second horse and jumped the course again.

Smith, partnered Susan Canadine and the nine-year-old Corboda, whom he bought in West Germany only two weeks ago. Wasting no time in the change-over he finished the two rounds more than a second ahead of the runner-up, Nelson Pessoa, of Brazil, who first rode Moei and Chandon's Judy and then Wilfride. Geoff Billington, from Cheshire, took third place riding Brinkley and IRV.

Nick Skelton gained the first of two points in his first round of the 17-horse jump-off and because of his early draw he was sure his time of 31.91sec was "bound to be beat".

riding Everest Radius. Skelton was the only rider out of 34 to gain 24 points - the maximum number possible. Michael Whitaker reached 23 on his quick speed horse, Courvoisier, to take second place. Hugo Simon of Austria, was third, one point behind, on Lucky.

Whitaker had a heartening start to the five-day show when he won Thursday night's opening class, the Modern Alarm Turkey Stakes, on Owen Gregory. The 16-year-old horse was only brought to the show at the last moment to replace Whitaker's former top ride, Disney Way, who died during an operation on a splint last month. It was a much needed boost for Whitaker, who is also about his top Olympic horse, Amanda. She is recovering from an operation and cannot be ridden until March.

Whitaker was the second to go in a 17-horse jump-off and because of his early draw he was sure his time of 31.91sec was "bound to be beat".

But Malcolm Pyrah, on Towerlands Anglezark, and Simon, on The Freak, the two who looked the most threatening, both failed to match Whitaker's fast time and filled second and third place respectively. RESULTS: British Courvoisier Two-Horse Stakes 1 Corboda and Susan Canadine (H Smith) 24.25sec 2 Lucky and Hugo Simon (H Smith) 23.75sec 3 Moei and Chandon's Judy (N Pessoa) 23.50sec 4 Brinkley and Geoff Billington (G Billington) 23.25sec 5 Disney Way (M Whitaker) 22.75sec 6 Owen Gregory (Owen Gregory) 22.50sec 7 Moei and Chandon's Judy (N Pessoa) 22.25sec 8 The Freak (H Simon) 21.75sec 9 Moei and Chandon's Judy (N Pessoa) 21.50sec 10 Moei and Chandon's Judy (N Pessoa) 21.25sec 11 Moei and Chandon's Judy (N Pessoa) 21.00sec 12 Moei and Chandon's Judy (N Pessoa) 20.75sec 13 Moei and Chandon's Judy (N Pessoa) 20.50sec 14 Moei and Chandon's Judy (N Pessoa) 20.25sec 15 Moei and Chandon's Judy (N Pessoa) 20.00sec 16 Moei and Chandon's Judy (N Pessoa) 19.75sec 17 Moei and Chandon's Judy (N Pessoa) 19.50sec 18 Moei and Chandon's Judy (N Pessoa) 19.25sec 19 Moei and Chandon's Judy (N Pessoa) 19.00sec 20 Moei and Chandon's Judy (N Pessoa) 18.75sec 21 Moei and Chandon's Judy (N Pessoa) 18.50sec 22 Moei and Chandon's Judy (N Pessoa) 18.25sec 23 Moei and Chandon's Judy (N Pessoa) 18.00sec 24 Moei and Chandon's Judy (N Pessoa) 17.75sec 25 Moei and Chandon's Judy (N Pessoa) 17.50sec 26 Moei and Chandon's Judy (N Pessoa) 17.25sec 27 Moei and Chandon's Judy (N Pessoa) 17.00sec 28 Moei and Chandon's Judy (N Pessoa) 16.75sec 29 Moei and Chandon's Judy (N Pessoa) 16.50sec 30 Moei and Chandon's Judy (N Pessoa) 16.25sec 31 Moei and Chandon's Judy (N Pessoa) 16.00sec 32 Moei and Chandon's Judy (N Pessoa) 15.75sec 33 Moei and Chandon's Judy (N Pessoa) 15.50sec 34 Moei and Chandon's Judy (N Pessoa) 15.25sec 35 Moei and Chandon's Judy (N Pessoa) 15.00sec 36 Moei and Chandon's Judy (N Pessoa) 14.75sec 37 Moei and Chandon's Judy (N Pessoa) 14.50sec 38 Moei and Chandon's Judy (N Pessoa) 14.25sec 39 Moei and Chandon's Judy (N Pessoa) 14.00sec 40 Moei and Chandon's Judy (N Pessoa) 13.75sec 41 Moei and Chandon's Judy (N Pessoa) 13.50sec 42 Moei and Chandon's Judy (N Pessoa) 13.25sec 43 Moei and Chandon's Judy (N Pessoa) 13.00sec 44 Moei and Chandon's Judy (N Pessoa) 12.75sec 45 Moei and Chandon's Judy (N Pessoa) 12.50sec 46 Moei and Chandon's Judy (N Pessoa) 12.25sec 47 Moei and Chandon's Judy (N Pessoa) 12.00sec 48 Moei and Chandon's Judy (N Pessoa) 11.75sec 49 Moei and Chandon's Judy (N Pessoa) 11.50sec 50 Moei and Chandon's Judy (N Pessoa) 11.25sec 51 Moei and Chandon's Judy (N Pessoa) 11.00sec 52 Moei and Chandon's Judy (N Pessoa) 10.75sec 53 Moei and Chandon's Judy (N Pessoa) 10.50sec 54 Moei and Chandon's Judy (N Pessoa) 10.25sec 55 Moei and Chandon's Judy (N Pessoa) 10.00sec 56 Moei and Chandon's Judy (N Pessoa) 9.75sec 57 Moei and Chandon's Judy (N Pessoa) 9.50sec 58 Moei and Chandon's Judy (N Pessoa) 9.25sec 59 Moei and Chandon's Judy (N Pessoa) 9.00sec 60 Moei and Chandon's Judy (N Pessoa) 8.75sec 61 Moei and Chandon's Judy (N Pessoa) 8.50sec 62 Moei and Chandon's Judy (N Pessoa) 8.25sec 63 Moei and Chandon's Judy (N Pessoa) 8.00sec 64 Moei and Chandon's Judy (N Pessoa) 7.75sec 65 Moei and Chandon's Judy (N Pessoa) 7.50sec 66 Moei and Chandon's Judy (N Pessoa) 7.25sec 67 Moei and Chandon's Judy (N Pessoa) 7.00sec 68 Moei and Chandon's Judy (N Pessoa) 6.75sec 69 Moei and Chandon's Judy (N Pessoa) 6.50sec 70 Moei and Chandon's Judy (N Pessoa) 6.25sec 71 Moei and Chandon's Judy (N Pessoa) 6.00sec 72 Moei and Chandon's Judy (N Pessoa) 5.75sec 73 Moei and Chandon's Judy (N Pessoa) 5.50sec 74 Moei and Chandon's Judy (N Pessoa) 5.25sec 75 Moei and Chandon's Judy (N Pessoa) 5.00sec 76 Moei and Chandon's Judy (N Pessoa) 4.75sec 77 Moei and Chandon's Judy (N Pessoa) 4.50sec 78 Moei and Chandon's Judy (N Pessoa) 4.25sec 79 Moei and Chandon's Judy (N Pessoa) 4.00sec 80 Moei and Chandon's Judy (N Pessoa) 3.75sec 81 Moei and Chandon's Judy (N Pessoa) 3.50sec 82 Moei and Chandon's Judy (N Pessoa) 3.25sec 83 Moei and Chandon's Judy (N Pessoa) 3.00sec 84 Moei and Chandon's Judy (N Pessoa) 2.75sec 85 Moei and Chandon's Judy (N Pessoa) 2.50sec 86 Moei and Chandon's Judy (N Pessoa) 2.25sec 87 Moei and Chandon's Judy (N Pessoa) 2.00sec 88 Moei and Chandon's Judy (N Pessoa) 1.75sec 89 Moei and Chandon's Judy (N Pessoa) 1.50sec 90 Moei and Chandon's Judy (N Pessoa) 1.25sec 91 Moei and Chandon's Judy (N Pessoa) 1.00sec 92 Moei and Chandon's Judy (N Pessoa) 0.75sec 93 Moei and Chandon's Judy (N Pessoa) 0.50sec 94 Moei and Chandon's Judy (N Pessoa) 0.25sec 95 Moei and Chandon's Judy (N Pessoa) 0.00sec 96 Moei and Chandon's Judy (N Pessoa) 0.00sec 97 Moei and Chandon's Judy (N Pessoa) 0.00sec 98 Moei and Chandon's Judy (N Pessoa) 0.00sec 99 Moei and Chandon's Judy (N Pessoa) 0.00sec 100 Moei and Chandon's Judy (N Pessoa) 0.00sec

Lucinda Green, the three-day event world champion, was nominated to be a member of the Federation Equestre Internationale three-day event committee at the general assembly of the FEI which took place in Bern this week.

SQUASH RACKETS

Left-handed players go for quick kill

By Colin McQuillan

Geoff Williams and Marlene Le Moignan introduced an appropriate high-speed spin to the domination of the British championships, sponsored by the British Rail InterCity division, at Abbotsley Park, Sheffield, adding their left-handed bias to the gathering momentum of a new generation of domestic talent, while winning their respective finals.

Williams defeated the unseeded Bryan Boeson 9-3, 9-1, 9-1 in 35 minutes. Miss Le Moignan left the former champion, Alison Cumings, struggling tearfully in the wreckage of her unsuccessful tactics, cruising to the second fastest women's final victory 9-1, 9-2, 9-0 in just 20 minutes. Only Sue Cogswell was more efficient, beating Teresa Lawton in 19 minutes.

Williams has risen from obscurity during the past two seasons to lead the English rankings and challenge the rest of the world. Five of the eight semi-finalists at Sheffield achieved for the first time such penetration of the domestic circuit.

Muscat (Reuter) - The world champion, Jahangir Khan, of Pakistan, won the final of the All India Grand Prix yesterday when he beat the No 3 seed, Rost Norman, of New Zealand, 9-3, 9-1, 9-6. Chris Dittmar, the No 2 seed from Australia, took third place by beating the No 3 seed, Qamar Zaman, of Pakistan, 9-10, 9-0, 9-3, 9-7.

Cyclist killed  
Aranda de Duero (Agencies) - Alberto Fernandez, one of Spain's top cyclists, was killed in a road accident near here yesterday when he was driving home from work.

After receiving the Spanish cyclist of the year award, Fernandez, aged 29, was second in this year's Tour de Spain. His wife also died in the crash.

Miss Le Moignan: efficient

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BASKETBALL

Two clubs with much in common

By Nicholas Harling

As next month's cup finalists, who play each other in a preview in tonight's first division game at Tolworth, Kingsford Kingston and FSO Cars, Warrington/Liverpool Vikings have even more than that in common. Both clubs have a similar delicate problem concerning an injury to a key player.

Den Davis, Kingston's American centre, may have to be persuaded to rest his injured knee tonight and strained ankle ligaments could force Colin Ingh, the Viking forward, out of the game. The problem for both teams is that they are still in the running for the League, having lost two games apiece, and know they cannot afford to lose players so essential to their plans. On the other hand, both clubs risk going into the Kellogg's Cup final at the Albert Hall on January 6 depleted.

Davis, who sank 15 points in the 107-93 semi-final defeat of Cottrills Manchester Giants on Thursday, which took Kingston through 205-190 on aggregate, has been advised to rest by a doctor. Nor did Irish referee Kevin O'Brien play for 12 minutes as Vikings swept Doncaster aside 96-78 and 178-158 on aggregate.

Sprightly Solent Stars, the league leaders who may meet next week, will after all go ahead with tonight's first division game with John Carr Doncaster at Fleming Park Eastleigh. Their supporters club are promoting the game.

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CROSS COUNTRY

Running from the English winter

It will afford little hope and no consolation to Tim Hutchings' opponents in the IAC cross-country event at Ipswich this afternoon to know that he finds some of his training a lot harder than his races. Your unfortunate correspondent can testify to the training part with a presumption born of poor memory, or probably just plain stupidity. I tried to accompany Hutchings on a "steady jog" around Wandsworth Common a few days ago and could barely last the first three miles. And I was on a bicycle.

With the discerning largeness that marks many of his utterances, Hutchings observed afterwards that even some of the top athletes he occasionally trains with "find that my steady runs are rather fast - perhaps that's why I get so many injuries". But the series of injuries that delayed his rise as a teenage sub-four-minute miler until his mid-twenties have stayed at bay for the last 15 months. And the acceleration upwards out of that erratic rise and fall in form has been as dramatic as the burst from the pack that signalled his runaway victory in the last big domestic cross-country race at Gateshead three weeks ago.

Favourite

Hutchings, aged 26 last week, has gone on to win two of the five French cross-country races in the same fashion and is clear favourite to repeat last year's victory in Chantry Park, Ipswich, today. He is scheduled to race against some of the best in France, this time on the road next Sunday (the organizers are hoping to get Said Auita, the Moroccan 5,600 metres Olympic champion, to run). Then, after the Mallory International cross-country race in Belfast on January 5, Hutchings will decamp to relatives in New Zealand for three months to escape the English winter.

Warm weather training abroad has become a favourite play of Britain's top athletes in recent winters - and the fact that Hutchings began making a living out of the sport concurrently with the start of that injury-free period 15 months ago means that he is not interrupting anything more serious than childhood by a protracted absence.

At first glance, Hutchings could be mistaken for a throwback to the Charles of Fin era of privilege, with his well-to-do background, public school education and Country Life accent. He has the dry detachment of one who has not had to scramble for an education or a living. But the recent acquisition (with his brother) of a house in Wandsworth is a confirmation of the financial independence that he deemed necessary, despite the "enormous amounts of money" that his parents make as a high-ranking Civil Servant and the personal manager of a Park Lane club.

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CROSS COUNTRY  
Running from the English winter

## CRICKET

## N Zealand threaten to walk off over umpire's decision

Karachi. (Reuters) — Pakistan's second innings was overshadowed by two heated exchanges between the umpires and the New Zealand players with the touring team threatening to walk off on the fourth day of the third Test yesterday.

At the close, Pakistan had struggled to 77 for two, still 21 runs behind New Zealand's first innings 436 all out. The visitors, remaining at 316 for four, crashed to 561 for eight before staging a credible recovery.

The trouble flared in the closing minutes when the New Zealand players clashed with umpire Shaukat Khan after he had rejected a loud appeal for a batsman being out. During a heated exchange in the middle it appeared that the two umpires had started walking towards the pavilion. The New Zealand players began to follow but, after a discussion lasting several minutes, play resumed.

Earlier in the day Brackenwell, off-spinner, clashed with umpire Javed Akhtar and the New Zealand captain, Jeremy Conway, intervened to bring down both bowler and official.

Pakistan claimed four cheap wickets in the morning session, but a partnership between McEwan (40 not out) and Brackenwell helped New Zealand push their lead to 98. Pakistan's most successful bowler of the series, Iqbal Qasim, was the collapse, finishing with figures of 4 for 133.

The home side soon lost opener Mudassar, with McEwan bringing off a suspension one-handed catch off Shafiq in the first over of the second innings. Qasim Umar was never comfortable but stayed to push the score to 57 before falling to a sharp return catch by Martin Crowe.

Mansoor joined Shaukat but looked shaky throughout and was lucky when Wright dropped him at mid-off when only on seven.

J. G. Wright's 100 was a high score for a batsman in his first Test. Pakistan's first innings was a high score for a batsman in his first Test.

McEwan's 40 not out was a high score for a batsman in his first Test. Pakistan's first innings was a high score for a batsman in his first Test.

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## Canny Danny's case looks solid

By Mandarin (Michael Phillips)

With the form of this year's Hennessy Cognac Gold Cup already working out, Canny Danny (nap) looks good bet to win the SGB Handicap Chase at Ascot today.

At Newbury he was the only one to make a race of it in the straight with Burrough Hill Lad, who, of course, has scaled even greater heights in the meantime at Wetherby by trouncing Wayward Lad at level weights.

More recently, Gay Chance and Kumbi, who finished third and fifth respectively in the big Newbury race, have stressed the reliability of that form by winning at Haydock.

In the Hennessy, Canny Danny finished 22 lengths ahead of the fourth horse, Fortina's Express, who had himself won his three previous races. In the circumstances it is hard to picture Fortina's Express beating him now on only a pound better terms. Likewise, it is difficult to make out a case for Tom's Little A beating my gun, even though he is in good form.

At Ascot last February, they met in the Whitbread Trial Chase. On that occasion, Canny Danny gave Tom's Little A a stone and a 15-length hiding. Now, they are carrying the same weight, and Duke of Milan both boast fine records at Ascot, but I will be disappointed if Canny Danny cannot win this nice consolation prize which he so richly deserves after that fine effort at Newbury.

The presence of two front runners — Desert Orchid and Northern Trial — in the field for this HISS Handicap, which could set the race up for See You Then, who is likely to be ridden with restraint by John Francome. In fact by taking a line through that ultra-reliable yardstick, Ra Nova, it is possible to argue that See You Then should beat Desert Orchid, who has, in any case, been laid low by a virus since he last ran.

Crimson Embers, who won the Long Walk Hurdle on this occasion 12 months ago, looks poised to give a repeat performance.

This out-and-out stayer was seen in bright form at Wincanton recently when beating Very Promising.

Instead of taking on Ragaban and Brave George in the Frogmore Handicap Chase at Ascot, Little Bay runs instead in the Sheila's Cottage Chase at Doncaster, so provoking the question of whether or not it is sensible to stage almost identical races on the same afternoon, when there are so few good two miles chasers around. What is clear is that Dennis Cookley will need the touch of a magician if he is to coax the enigmatic Little Bay past Mossy Moore in the closing stages. Caught in the moved and ridden right, Little Bay can do it, in my opinion.

Townley Stone, so impressive at Sandown and Ascot already this season, has a tough task against the two Dickinson runners, State Case and The Welder in the Freebooter Novices' Chase. As he has already thrashed Sula Bula this season, Townley Stone should have nothing to fear from that quarter, and I think that he should just about win again. No matter how Sula Bula gets on, Dover (1.15) and Cybranndan (2.30) can keep up Peter Easterby's impressive rate of success these past few Saturdays.

At Towcester that good hurdler, Goldspan, will win the Mistletoe Novices' Chase just as long as he takes to jumping fences in public as well as his stable and schooling companion, Very Promising, did at Haydock Park on Wednesday.

Super Charger, who ran well behind the Brener at Newbury, can win the first division of the Christmas Pudding Novices' Hurdle for Stan Mellor. Mark Perrett and Simon Tindall. Whether his stable companion, Ashlane, can pull off a memorable double for the same connections by winning the other division seems open to doubt.

At Ascot, Fulk, who was promising six-year-old, Hunter River, who was beaten only a short head first time out.



Duke Of Milan, who runs in this afternoon's SGB Handicap Chase at Ascot, will be attempting to gain his fifth victory over the Berkshire course.

## Out Of The Gloom a bright prospect

Out Of The Gloom stamped himself as a Chesham horse when the Sasey Kid Novices' Hurdle at Doncaster yesterday to give John O'Neill his first winner for six weeks. O'Neill was out of action with a broken left arm after falling on Goosy Grainger at Wetherby on November 2.

The 6-5 favourite was restrained in the early stages by O'Neill, but with some bold jumping, pulled his way to the front approaching the last hurdle and strode away from the opposition to win by 12 lengths.

Reg Hollinshead said: "I have had runners in that before, but the best I have managed is fourth". The trainer was saddling his sixth success from horses this season.

John Francome, the leading jockey, who may announce his retirement plans at Christmas, is still chasing his first winner this month. He was on the runner-up, Wassen, in the event which had been beaten on Rhythmic Pastimes, the favourite for the Sea Pigeon Handicap Hurdle.

Jimmy Fitzgerald and stable jockey, J. Lacey, completed their favours double with Direct Line and Zandania. Direct Line started 3-1 joint favourite for the Red Alligator Handicap at Wetherby, and cruised home by 1.5 lengths from Far Bridge. The winner, pushed into the lead two out, soon had the race sewn up. Fitzgerald said: "He is like a tank at his fences and when he is at Chesham he is a fence two out and demolished it. He still managed to finish fourth there".

Zandania, starting 6-4 on, led the race but almost lost the advantage as O'Leary casually looked over his shoulder in the dying stages.

Fitzgerald was angered by the over-confidence of his jockey. He said: "If he had lost the race I would have had to tell him about his riding".

Run And Skip jumped splendidly in the hands of John Moshford, to gain a third successive all-the-way win in the Stoneleigh Handicap Chase at Warwick. The six-year-old 10 length victory completed a 7-1 double for Moshford, who was also successful on the 2-5-1 shot, Rogapio.

Run And Skip, unbeaten this season, has improved his jumping out of all recognition and the secret is that he doesn't schooling. "The more you school him, the worse he jumps, so he doesn't see a fence at home," John Spearing, the trainer, said. He received the gelding at

Alcester last April when his four Leicestershire owners transferred him from Roger Fisher's stable.

Nickie Moppett was close on the heels of Run And Skip three fences from home, but the leader cut; jumped him to go away between the last two fences, with Port Askaire running Nickie Moppett out of second place.

"Run And Skip used to be a bad jumper, but appears to have got it together now," Spearing said, pointing out that the gelding was out of the handicap in the Welsh Grand National. "In the circumstances, I don't think I will run him at Chesham, but I'll think about it over the weekend," he added.

Rogapio, on whom Moshford got up close home to beat the 3-4 favourite, Wyford, by a length in the first division of the Shirley Novices' Chase, was pulled up in his two previous races this season.

Roadster, who jumped to the front three fences out in the first division of the Novices' Chase, was joined by his market rival, Flaven Tina, at the last. She might just have touched down first, but Roadster regained command on the run to win by two lengths.

Royal Charge, 33-1 winner of the second division in the Hampton Novices' Hurdle, was not backed by anyone on the Tote, so all win bets were refunded. The dual forecast, however, paid £435.50 pence for a £1 stake.

O'Neill: victory on second day back

## Ellison helps cover gap left by Allott

From Richard Streeton, Delhi

England will decide this weekend whether to send for a replacement for Paul Allott, the Lancashire fast-medium bowler, whose back injury has prevented him bowling properly for three weeks. Allott, aged 28, who was brought to India to fill the stock bowling role, will have a strenuous workout today in the nets. If he has any reaction at the base of his spine, where the recent pain has been, he is likely to return to England.

The problem has still not been properly traced, but his prospects are not good. It is stretched luck for Allott, who was expected to bowl for long periods and to keep the score down. He also had an important part in England's plans for the one-day games in Australia in February and March. Allott struggled on his last appearance, which was in Rajkot, against West Zone from November 21-24.

Since then he has only recently started firing again but his net turned over, arm in anger. Rest is the recommended treatment for Allott's injury and it might prove in the interests of both the player and the touring team if he returned home.

The procedure for choosing Allott's replacement would be for the tour management to suggest the player they want and the TCC Board selectors have to agree. There are players on standby, keeping fit, either on overseas assignments, or in sub-continent. Leadbetter took over from A E Rhodes (hernia) in 1961-62 and Cowdrey and Parfitt for Stewart (stomach illness) and Barrington (broken hand) in 1963-64.

David Gower, the England captain, felt England were "nicely placed" at his rest-day press conference, praising Robinson's batting and England's bowling. He said a position from which they hoped to go on and take control of the game. England, with eight first-innings wickets in hand, resumed today 200-run behind on a slow, low pitch. England's ambition is to obtain a lead of around 130 or 150, at least, in order to leave themselves as little as possible to do in the fourth innings.

In both Test matches so far England have benefited from undisciplined batting by the front-rank Indian players, even if the sub-continent. Leadbetter took over from A E Rhodes (hernia) in 1961-62 and Cowdrey and Parfitt for Stewart (stomach illness) and Barrington (broken hand) in 1963-64.

England could certainly manage over the next three days with 14 players during the Christmas and New Year period. Ellison's newly acquired form with the new ball has helped cover the gap left by Allott's inability to bowl a complete break. Ellison's new ball has helped cover the gap left by Allott's inability to bowl a complete break.

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## ASCOT

[Televised: 12.50, 1.20, 1.55]

GOING: good to soft.

Tote: double 1.20, 2.30. Treble 12.50, 1.55, 3.00

12.15 KILLINEY NOVICE CHASE (25,472; 2m 4f) (8 runners)

12.15 BROWN TRIX (2m 4f) (8 runners)

12.15 CANNY DANNY (nap) (2m 4f) (8 runners)

12.15 HIRE SHIRE CHURCH (2m 4f) (8 runners)

12.15 DESERT ORCHID (2m 4f) (8 runners)

12.15 SGB HANDICAP CHASE (21,784; 3m) (7 runners)

12.15 PORTMAN EXPRESS (2m 4f) (8 runners)

12.15 SUPER GRASS (2m 4f) (8 runners)

12.15 INVITATION TO WILLIS (2m 4f) (8 runners)

12.15 GRAVENEY RE-ELECTED (2m 4f) (8 runners)

12.15 RACKETS (2m 4f) (8 runners)

12.15 TONBRIDGE ARE THE SCHOOL TO BEAT (2m 4f) (8 runners)

12.15 CRICKET (2m 4f) (8 runners)

12.15 RACING: FITZGERALD'S CHASER LOOKS OUTSTANDING ON HENNESSY GOLD CUP FORM

12.15 OUT OF THE GLOOM: a bright prospect

12.15 ELLISON HELPS COVER GAP LEFT BY ALLOTT

12.15 W INDIANS OUT OF SORTS

## BBC

[Televised: 12.50, 1.20, 1.55]

GOING: good to soft.

Tote: double 1.20, 2.30. Treble 12.50, 1.55, 3.00

12.15 KILLINEY NOVICE CHASE (25,472; 2m 4f) (8 runners)

12.15 BROWN TRIX (2m 4f) (8 runners)

12.15 CANNY DANNY (nap) (2m 4f) (8 runners)

12.15 HIRE SHIRE CHURCH (2m 4f) (8 runners)

12.15 DESERT ORCHID (2m 4f) (8 runners)

12.15 SGB HANDICAP CHASE (21,784; 3m) (7 runners)

12.15 PORTMAN EXPRESS (2m 4f) (8 runners)

12.15 SUPER GRASS (2m 4f) (8 runners)

12.15 INVITATION TO WILLIS (2m 4f) (8 runners)

12.15 GRAVENEY RE-ELECTED (2m 4f) (8 runners)

12.15 RACKETS (2m 4f) (8 runners)

12.15 TONBRIDGE ARE THE SCHOOL TO BEAT (2m 4f) (8 runners)

12.15 CRICKET (2m 4f) (8 runners)

12.15 RACING: FITZGERALD'S CHASER LOOKS OUTSTANDING ON HENNESSY GOLD CUP FORM

12.15 OUT OF THE GLOOM: a bright prospect

12.15 ELLISON HELPS COVER GAP LEFT BY ALLOTT

12.15 W INDIANS OUT OF SORTS

## DONCASTER

[Televised: 1.45, 2.15, 2.50]

GOING: good

Tote: double 1.45, 2.50. Treble 1.15, 2.15, 3.20

12.15 GLASSGOW PADDOCKS SELLING HURDLE (21,448; 2m 150yds) (18 runners)

12.15 TEAL NOVICE HANDICAP HURDLE (2548; 2m 150yds) (12 runners)

12.15 FREEBOOTER NOVICE CHASE (Grade 2; 2m 150yds) (6 runners)

12.15 TOWNLEY STONE (2m 150yds) (12 runners)

12.15 STATE CASE (2m 150yds) (12 runners)

12.15 THE WELDER (2m 150yds) (12 runners)

12.15 SHEILA'S COTTAGE CHASE (Limited handicap; Grade 2; 2m 150yds) (6 runners)

12.15 NIGHT NURSE HANDICAP HURDLE (22,473; 2m 40f) (8 runners)

12.15 NEWLIFE CONNECTION (2m 150yds) (12 runners)

12.15 CELTIC CRACKER (2m 150yds) (12 runners)

12.15 MATHIAS DOUGLAS (2m 150yds) (12 runners)

12.15 MOUNTAINEER (2m 150yds) (12 runners)

12.15 SILVER SHADOW (2m 150yds) (12 runners)

12.15 AGAZA (2m 150yds) (12 runners)

12.15 SOUTHERN, the four-year-old who carried top weight to victory in the William Hill Handicap Hurdle at Plumpton earlier this week, stepped up in class in the £5,000 Salmonsday Hurdle at Foulwell Park on December 28.

12.15 SOUTHERN, the four-year-old who carried top weight to victory in the William Hill Handicap Hurdle at Plumpton earlier this week, stepped up in class in the £5,000 Salmonsday Hurdle at Foulwell Park on December 28.

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## TOWCESTER

[Televised: 12.50, 1.20, 1.55]

GOING: good to soft.

Tote: double 1.20, 2.30. Treble 12.50, 1.55, 3.00

12.15 KILLINEY NOVICE CHASE (25,472; 2m 4f) (8 runners)

12.15 BROWN TRIX (2m 4f) (8 runners)

12.15 CANNY DANNY (nap) (2m 4f) (8 runners)

12.15 HIRE SHIRE CHURCH (2m 4f) (8 runners)

12.15 DESERT ORCHID (2m 4f) (8 runners)

12.15 SGB HANDICAP CHASE (21,784; 3m) (7 runners)

12.15 PORTMAN EXPRESS (2m 4f) (8 runners)

12.15 SUPER GRASS (2m 4f) (8 runners)

12.15 INVITATION TO WILLIS (2m 4f) (8 runners)

12.15 GRAVENEY RE-ELECTED (2m 4f) (8 runners)

12.15 RACKETS (2m 4f) (8 runners)

12.15 TONBRIDGE ARE THE SCHOOL TO BEAT (2m 4f) (8 runners)

12.15 CRICKET (2m 4f) (8 runners)

12.15 RACING: FITZGERALD'S CHASER LOOKS OUTSTANDING ON HENNESSY GOLD CUP FORM

12.15 OUT OF THE GLOOM: a bright prospect

12.15 ELLISON HELPS COVER GAP LEFT BY ALLOTT

12.15 W INDIANS OUT OF SORTS

## WARWICK

[Televised: 12.50, 1.20, 1.55]

GOING: good

Tote: double 1.20, 2.30. Treble 12.50, 1.55, 3.00

12.15 KILLINEY NOVICE CHASE (25,472; 2m 4f) (8 runners)

12.15 BROWN TRIX (2m 4f) (8 runners)

12.15 CANNY DANNY (nap) (2m 4f) (8 runners)

12.15 HIRE SHIRE CHURCH (2m 4f) (8 runners)

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12.15 OUT OF THE GLOOM: a bright prospect

12.15 ELLISON HELPS COVER GAP LEFT BY ALLOTT

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# Spouse's duty of disclosure in matrimonial dispute orders

**Jenkins v Litssey (formerly Jenkins)**  
Before Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone, Lord Chancellor, Lord Scarman, Lord Keith of Kinkaid, Lord Bridge of Harwich and Lord Brandon of Oakbrook  
[Speeches read December 13]

A wife who became engaged to be married after her divorce from her husband was bound to disclose to the husband or his solicitors and thereby to the court before a compromise of her claim for financial provision and property adjustment previously arrived at between the parties' solicitors was embodied in a consent order pursuant to section 25(1) of the Matrimonial Causes Act 1973.

The House of Lords allowed an appeal by the former husband, Henry Jenkins, from the Court of Appeal (Sir John Arnold, President and Mrs Justice Helburn) (The Times, December 22, 1983), who had dismissed an appeal by the husband from Judge Cox in Plymouth County Court.

Section 25(1) of the 1973 Act, as originally enacted, provided: "It shall be the duty of the court in deciding whether to exercise its powers (to order) under section 23A (b), (c) or (d) or 24 in relation to a party to the marriage and, if so, in what manner, to have regard to all the circumstances of the case, including the following matters, that is to say— (a) the income, earning capacity, property and other financial resources which each of the parties to the marriage has or is likely to have in the foreseeable future;

Mr Robert Johnson, QC and Mr Anthony Myer for the husband; Mr Swinton Thomas, QC and Miss Joan Ritchie for the former wife, Mrs Litssey (formerly Jenkins).

LORD HAILSHAM said that the husband had left the matrimonial home in October 1981, in the course of correspondence beginning in September, 1981, the parties' solicitors had reached agreement on a number of matters.

First, the marriage having broken down irretrievably, the wife should divorce the husband on the basis of his confession of adultery.

Second, she should have custody of the children.

Third, following the proposed divorce, there should be a consent order of the court in respect of financial provision and property adjustment that would dispose finally of all claims by both parties.

The wife was granted a decree nisi on March 1, 1982, which was made absolute on April 14, On or about August 12, 1982, the parties' solicitors reached final agreement about the form and terms of the proposed consent order. It contained two essential provisions material to the appeal.

First the husband was to transfer his half-share in the matrimonial home to the wife, subject to the mortgage on it for which she would thereafter have sole responsibility. The expressed purpose of that transfer was to provide her with a home entirely of her own in which she could live with the two children.

Second, all the wife's claims for financial provision for herself should be finally dismissed. It was apparent from the correspondence that these two provisions were interdependent.

The possibility of the wife divorcing her husband, particularly in the near future, before the proposed consent order came to be put into effect had never been mentioned in the correspondence between the solicitors or between the parties themselves.

On August 18, 1982, the wife had become engaged to another man whom she had first met on July 12. She did not disclose that fact to the husband or his solicitors or even to her own solicitors.

On September 2, the consent order was made. On September 22, the husband conveyed his half-share in the matrimonial home to the wife, that half-share being worth somewhat over £12,000. On September 24, the wife remarried. The husband subsequently learned of that remarriage.

The importance of the wife's non-disclosure of her engagement to remarry was that by section 28 of the 1973 Act, on remarriage she would have lost permanently any right to any financial provisions from the husband. That being so if the husband or his solicitors had been informed at any time before the making of the consent order it was clear that the husband would have withdrawn his consent to the making of that order.

The husband applied for the consent order to be set aside on the ground that the wife had failed to disclose a material fact. The judge had considered himself bound by the decision of Mr Justice Tudor Evans in *Wales v Wadham* (1977) 1 WLR 1991 to refuse to set aside the order. The Court of Appeal had dismissed the husband's appeal.

The scheme that the legislature had enacted by sections 23, 24 and 25 of the 1973 Act was a scheme under which the court would be bound, before deciding whether to exercise its powers under sections 23, 24 and 25, to have regard to all the circumstances of the case, including, *inter alia*, the particular matters specified in paragraphs (a) and (b) of section 25(1).

It followed that, in proceedings in which parties invoked the exercise of the court's powers under sections 23, 24 and 25, they must provide the information that was relevant to the circumstances of the case, including, *inter alia*, the particular matters so specified. Unless they did so, directly or indirectly, and ensured that the information was correct, complete and up to date, the court was not equipped to exercise its powers properly, its discretion in section 25(1).

In contested cases relating to the exercise of the court's powers under sections 23 and 24 the requirement that the information be provided was met by rules of court which with both parties must comply: Matrimonial Causes Rules (SI 1977 No 344), rules 73 to 76 and 77.

The situation regarding consent orders was special, where no affidavits were filed and reliance was placed entirely on the exchange of information between the parties' solicitors, had at the material time been satisfactory, there had been no specific statutory provisions or rules of court.

It had been common practice for registrars to make such orders without making any such inquiries themselves but relying on the fact that the solicitors could be relied on to have inquired adequately into all the matters to which regard had to be had under section 25(1). That practice, which had since been improved, had not been wholly satisfactory.

It followed necessarily from what his Lordship had said that each party concerned in claims for financial provision and property adjustment, in the form of an affidavit (or in the case of a consent order) owed a duty to the court to make full and frank disclosure of all material facts to the other party and the court. That principle of full and frank disclosure in such proceedings had long been recognized and enforced as a matter of practice. The legal basis of that principle, and the justification for it, were to be found in the statutory provisions to which his Lordship had referred.

Once it was accepted that that principle of full and frank disclosure existed, it was obvious that it must apply not only to contested proceedings heard with full evidence adduced before the court but also to exchanges of information between parties and their solicitors leading to the making of consent orders without further inquiry by the court. If that were not so, it would be impossible for the court to have any assurance that the requirements of section 25(1) had been complied with before it made such consent orders.

Applying that principle to the facts of the present case there could be no doubt that the fact that the wife had, on August 18, 1982, become engaged to be remarried shortly was a matter that she had been under a duty to disclose before the agreement with regard to

financial provision and property adjustment previously reached between the solicitors on either side had been put into effect by the making of a consent order. That was because the fact of the wife's engagement was one of the circumstances of the case referred to in section 25(1) and was further of direct relevance to the particular matters specified in paragraphs (a) and (b) of that subsection.

Such disclosure should have been made by the wife to her own solicitors, and through them to the husband's solicitors, as soon as the engagement to remarry had taken place. Since it had not been made, the consent order was invalid and the husband should be entitled, in order to prevent injustice, to have it set aside.

Mr Justice Tudor Evans had been wrong in *Wales v Wadham* to reject so much of the husband's claim as had been based on the need for full and frank disclosure in ancillary proceedings in the Family Division. Following the decision of the Court of Appeal in the present case, *Practice Direction (Family Division: Financial)* (1984) 1 All ER 744 had been issued relating to the procedure to be followed in applications for financial provision or property adjustment. That clearly was a step in the right direction so far as the making of consent orders was concerned.

A further step in the right direction had been taken by section 33A of the 1973 Act, inserted by section 7 of the Matrimonial and Family Proceedings Act 1984, and the new rule 76A of the Matrimonial Causes Rules 1977 inserted by rule 8 of the Matrimonial Causes (Amendment) Rules (SI 1984 No 1511).

Rule 76A, dealing with the procedure to be followed in applications for financial relief, laid down a procedure including the lodging of a statement containing the kind of information that the court needed to have before making an order in accordance with the revised criteria contained in the new section 25 substituted for the original section 25 of the 1973 Act by section 3 of the 1984 Act.

It must not be thought, however, that those further provisions altered in any way at all the basic principle of the need for full and frank disclosure by both parties before a consent order was made.

The form of the consent order made in the present case was open to a number of criticisms. When a consent order was drafted, it was essential that all the terms should be clearly stated, and the powers conferred on it by sections 23 and 24 of the 1973 Act.

In the present case there were several terms that were not within those powers. The proper procedure for incorporating such obligations into a consent order was by formulating them as undertakings given to the court. Such undertakings were enforceable as effectively as direct orders.

His Lordship would end with an emphatic word of warning. It was not every failure of full and frank disclosure that would justify a court in setting aside an order of the kind concerned in the present appeal.

On the contrary, it would only be in cases when the absence of full and frank disclosure had led to the making, either in contested proceedings or by consent, an order that was substantially different from the order that it would have made if such disclosure had taken place that a case for setting aside could possibly be made good.

Parties who applied to set aside orders on the ground of failure to disclose some relatively minor matter or matters, the disclosure of which would not have made any substantial difference to the order that the court would have made or approved, were likely to find their applications being summarily dismissed, with costs against them or, if they were legally aided, against the legal aid fund.

The Lord Chancellor, Lord Scarman, Lord Keith and Lord Bridge agreed.

Solicitors: Gregory Rowcliffe & Co for G & L Chisholm, Bodmin; Bowler Cotton & Bowler for Bond Pearce, Liskeard.

## Compassion in not deporting to be personal

**Regina v Immigration Appeal Tribunal, Ex parte Bakhtiar Singh**  
Before Lord Justice Stephenson, Lord Justice Fox and Lord Justice Purches  
[Judgment delivered December 11]

Parliament had not thought it desirable that the Home Secretary should have a general power to deport at his discretion under the Immigration Act 1971 but had specified certain cases where he had thought it to be in the public interest that a person should be liable to deportation. But even in those cases paragraph 154 of the *Statement of Changes in Immigration Rules* (HC 66 (1982)) had indicated a further protection, namely, a balancing of the public interest with the compassionate circumstances of the case.

The Court of Appeal, in a reserved judgment, allowed an appeal by the Immigration Appeal Tribunal against an order of Mr Justice Hodgson dated March 2, 1984, that a decision of the tribunal refusing the applicant, Mr Bakhtiar Singh, leave to appeal against the decision of Mr D. Parkes, a first instance immigration officer, should be quashed and be rescinded.

Mr John Laws for the tribunal; Miss Frances Webber for the applicant.

LORD JUSTICE FOX, giving the judgment of the court, said that the judgment of the court was that the decision of the tribunal was quashed and the decision of the first instance immigration officer was rescinded. He was a Sikh and an Indian citizen aged about 34 years. He came to this country in September 1979 with a work permit for employment as a member of an Indian folk music group. He was given permission to remain until November 30.

Early in November 1979 he made application to stay for a further period of six months as a visitor, almost immediately afterwards he applied for a further six-month stay as a music teacher and priest. Those applications were both rejected.

In June 1982, the applicant was arrested and charged with overstaying. He pleaded guilty and was sentenced to two months' imprisonment; in addition a recommendation was made for his deportation. He appealed to the crown court. The recommendation was quashed.

On October 4 the applicant was informed, through a member of Parliament, that he should leave without delay. He did not do so. The Home Secretary therefore decided to deport him under section 3 (3)(a) of the Immigration Act 1971.

Notice of that decision was given to the applicant on February 1, 1983. He appealed to an adjudicator, and that appeal was allowed. The adjudicator then sought leave to appeal to the Immigration Appeal Tribunal. The tribunal refused leave. In the present proceedings the applicant sought judicial review of those two decisions.

The adjudicator took the view that the loss to the Sikh community of the religious and musical services which the applicant rendered to that community was not proper to be taken into account by him and in particular did not constitute a "compassionate" circumstance of the case "within" paragraph 154 of HC 66. In reaching that conclusion the adjudicator followed Mr Justice Forbes's decision in *R v Immigration Appeal Tribunal, Ex parte Sohal* (1981) 1 Imm AR 30.

In the context of the document itself and the statute, the words "public interest" could only be referred to in paragraph 154 as the public interest in favour of deportation and as excluding any considerations of public interest which might be against deportation.

Furthermore, the "compassionate circumstances" referred to in paragraph 154 were those of a personal nature relating to the individual and not to the community as a whole. The applicant himself which aroused compassion.

It was the personal situation of the applicant himself that one was concerned with. Thus, in paragraph 156 (dealing with recommendations for deportation by a court) the listed circumstances were all essentially personal to the applicant; see *R v Immigration Appeal Tribunal, Ex parte Sohal* (1981) 1 Imm AR 30.

The result was that *Sohal's* case as interpreted by Mr Justice Woolf in *Patel's* case was rightly decided and that accordingly the adjudicator in the present case did not misdirect himself in law.

Solicitors: Treasury Solicitor, Laaman.

## Adjournment of access case is appealable

**Regina v Slough Justices, Ex parte B**

The decision of justices to adjourn *sine die* the hearing of the parents' application for access to their children was held to be appealable under the provisions of section 12C of the Child Care Act 1980 was appealable to the Divisional Court of the Family Division. It was not appropriate to seek judicial review and an order for certiorari directing the justices to hear the parents' application, Mr Justice Wood sitting as an additional judge in the Queen's Bench Division stated on December 13 when he allowed an application for judicial review.

HIS LORDSHIP said that the boy, aged 2½, was in the care of section 1 of the Children and Young Persons Act 1969 following the making of a place of safety order.

The local authority had written to the parents stopping access and stating that it was the intention to apply to the High Court for leave to place the child for adoption.

The parents' summons under the 1980 Act and the local authority's application to the High Court had been made on July 17, 1984. The local authority had asked for the parents' application to be adjourned generally because of their High Court application.

By an appeal from the decision of the justices to adjourn, both sets of proceedings would be in the control of the High Court.

## Club capable of being assessed to gains and development tax

**Worthing Rugby Football Club Trustees v Inland Revenue Commissioners**  
Before Mr Justice Peter Gibson  
[Judgment delivered December 6]

A club, an unincorporated body and incapable of owning property, was nevertheless an entity of assessment both for corporation tax and development land tax purposes. Assessments made on Worthing Rugby Football Club to the two taxes in respect of gains accruing from the sale by the club of development land were valid assessments and the special commissioners had been wrong in law to discharge them.

Mr Justice Peter Gibson so held in the Chancery Division when dismissing appeals by the trustees of the club and allowing cross appeals by the Crown from determinations by the commissioners that had discharged all the assessments on the club but had upheld alternative assessments to the tax made on the club's trustees.

The club was founded as an unincorporated members' club in 1900. In 1926 it had acquired freehold land at West Worthing for use as its ground and headquarters. The club trustees were registered as the proprietors of the land which they held subject to club rules.

In 1977 5½ acres of the land were sold for £171,500 and the next year three-fifths of an acre were sold for £26,000. Consequently on those sales the club was assessed to development land tax for its financial year to March 1978 £153,058 and for the following year of £12,813. Alternative assessments to the tax for those periods were also made on the trustees.

Additionally the Club was assessed to corporation tax in respect of chargeable gains for its accounting period to April 30, 1978 of £25,700 and for the accounting period to April 30, 1979 of £14,300. Alternative assessments were likewise made on the trustees.

The trustees appealed to the commissioners against all the assessments. They argued that tax

liability attached only to the individual members of the club at the relevant dates with the result that no tax was payable because of the exemptions from the Development Land Tax Act 1976 and by the Finance Act 1965 to which each member was entitled.

The commissioners, while accepting that the assessments on the club had to be discharged, rejected the contention that liability attached only to the members. The trustees, they decided, did not hold the land as bare trustees, but as trustees whose members were not "persons" absolutely entitled as against the trustees "for the purposes of either section 238 of the 1976 Act or section 22(3) of the 1965 Act. The result was, they held, that the trustees were the person properly chargeable to the taxes. Both parties appealed.

Mr Philip Lawton, QC and Mr Edward Grayson for the trustees; Mr Robert Carnwath for the Crown, club's trustees.

MR JUSTICE PETER GIBSON said that there was no unincorporated association like a club was not a legal entity. Club property was vested in trustees for its members whose rights and obligations were governed by the contract, usually the club's rules, which they entered on becoming members.

But the appeals were concerned not as much with the general law as with statutory provisions. By sections 238 and 236(5) of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1970, corporation tax was charged on gains accruing to unincorporated associations by section 22(3) of the Finance Act 1965 where assets were held by a person as trustee for another person or persons absolutely entitled as against the trustee, the assets were to be treated as being vested in such person or persons.

The Crown argued that the club, having a separate existence for corporation tax purposes, was chargeable to that tax on the gains because it was "a person absolutely entitled as against the trustees" to the assets disposed of. Mr Lawton

did not deny that a club could be chargeable to corporation tax but argued that to come within section 22(3) the club would have to be an entity which under the general law was capable of acquiring, owning and disposing of property.

Mr Lawton's argument was unacceptable. By virtue of section 19 of the Interpretation Act 1979 "person" in section 22(3) included any "body of persons corporate or unincorporated". Thus an unincorporated association was treated as a person that could dispose of assets including land. That was entirely in accordance with the treatment of an unincorporated association as an entity of assessment for income tax and corporation tax purposes.

Accordingly the Crown's argument on section 22(3) being correct, the commissioners' determination standing as it did, part of the appeal had to be reversed.

By section 4(2) of the Development Land Tax Act 1976 the person chargeable to the tax imposed on the realization of the development value of land was the person responsible for the disposal. By section 28 where an interest in land was held on a trust for a person absolutely entitled as against the trustee that interest was to be treated as if it were vested in the person so entitled.

The Crown's case again was that the provisions of the Interpretation Act applied so that "person" in section 28 included an unincorporated body of persons unless a contrary intention appeared. Having already found that, notwithstanding its incapacity to hold property, an unincorporated association was an entity of assessment for certain tax purposes, his Lordship concluded that it was to be treated as an entity for development land tax purposes as well.

The Crown's appeal in relation to the development land tax assessment was also allowed. All the assessments against the trustees were discharged.

Solicitors: Miller Parry, Worthing; Solicitor of Inland Revenue.

The trustees appealed to the commissioners against all the assessments. They argued that tax

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Accordingly the Crown's argument on section 22(3) being correct, the commissioners' determination standing as it did, part of the appeal had to be reversed.

By section 4(2) of the Development Land Tax Act 1976 the person chargeable to the tax imposed on the realization of the development value of land was the person responsible for the disposal. By section 28 where an interest in land was held on a trust for a person absolutely entitled as against the trustee that interest was to be treated as if it were vested in the person so entitled.

The Crown's case again was that the provisions of the Interpretation Act applied so that "person" in section 28 included an unincorporated body of persons unless a contrary intention appeared. Having already found that, notwithstanding its incapacity to hold property, an unincorporated association was an entity of assessment for certain tax purposes, his Lordship concluded that it was to be treated as an entity for development land tax purposes as well.

The Crown's appeal in relation to the development land tax assessment was also allowed. All the assessments against the trustees were discharged.

Solicitors: Miller Parry, Worthing; Solicitor of Inland Revenue.

The trustees appealed to the commissioners against all the assessments. They argued that tax

liability attached only to the individual members of the club at the relevant dates with the result that no tax was payable because of the exemptions from the Development Land Tax Act 1976 and by the Finance Act 1965 to which each member was entitled.

The commissioners, while accepting that the assessments on the club had to be discharged, rejected the contention that liability attached only to the members. The trustees, they decided, did not hold the land as bare trustees, but as trustees whose members were not "persons" absolutely entitled as against the trustees "for the purposes of either section 238 of the 1976 Act or section 22(3) of the 1965 Act. The result was, they held, that the trustees were the person properly chargeable to the taxes. Both parties appealed.

Mr Philip Lawton, QC and Mr Edward Grayson for the trustees; Mr Robert Carnwath for the Crown, club's trustees.

MR JUSTICE PETER GIBSON said that there was no unincorporated association like a club was not a legal entity. Club property was vested in trustees for its members whose rights and obligations were governed by the contract, usually the club's rules, which they entered on becoming members.

But the appeals were concerned not as much with the general law as with statutory provisions. By sections 238 and 236(5) of the Income and Corporation Taxes Act 1970, corporation tax was charged on gains accruing to unincorporated associations by section 22(3) of the Finance Act 1965 where assets were held by a person as trustee for another person or persons absolutely entitled as against the trustee, the assets were to be treated as being vested in such person or persons.

The Crown argued that the club, having a separate existence for corporation tax purposes, was chargeable to that tax on the gains because it was "a person absolutely entitled as against the trustees" to the assets disposed of. Mr Lawton

did not deny that a club could be chargeable to corporation tax but argued that to come within section 22(3) the club would have to be an entity which under the general law was capable of acquiring, owning and disposing of property.

Mr Lawton's argument was unacceptable. By virtue of section 19 of the Interpretation Act 1979 "person" in section 22(3) included any "body of persons corporate or unincorporated". Thus an unincorporated association was treated as a person that could dispose of assets including land. That was entirely in accordance with the treatment of an unincorporated association as an entity of assessment for income tax and corporation tax purposes.

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## Saturday

Television and radio programmes  
Summaries: Peter Dear and Peter Davalle

## Sunday

- BBC 1**
- 8.30 The Persians (1.8.35 The Little Hobo (1.9.00) Saturday SuperStore managed by Mike Reid. Cartoon, pop music and jokes with guests who include Paul Young, Della Smith, Giles Brindley, Kim Wilde and Norris McWhirter. Keith Harris and Orville will be answering viewers' telephone calls 12.12 Weather from Ian McCaskill.
- 12.15 Grandstand introduced by Desmond Lynam. The line-up is: 12.15 Football Focus with Bob Wilson; 12.45, 1.15 and 1.50 Racing from Ascot; 1.50 News; 1.55 Boxing Harry Carpenter with highlights from last night's bill at the Wembley Conference Centre; 1.30 Singing from Val Gardena; 2.10 Ragby Union: the Barbarians against the Australian Wallabies at Cardiff Arms Park. Full coverage; 3.50 Football highlights scores and reports; 3.55 International Show Jumping: the Olympia International Championship from the Grand Hall, Olympia; 4.15 Athletics: the Bank of America 100m Sprint from the Grand Hall, Olympia; 4.40 Final score.
- 5.05 News with Jan Leeming 5.15 Sport/Regional news.
- 5.20 Superdance 84 presented by Gary Davies. A disco dancing competition featuring the winners of the National Association of Youth Clubs.
- 5.55 The Noel Edwards Late Late Breakfast Show with the emphasis on magic, mystery and illusion.
- 6.45 Film: Carry On... Don't Lose Your Head (1967) starring Sid James and Jim Dale as the two aristocratic Englishmen, dedicated to saving their Parisian counterparts threatened by the French Revolution. Directed by Gerald Thomas.
- 8.15 Dynasty. Such is the way of the world that Kirby, having been raped by Adam, decides to divorce Jeff in order that she can be free to marry Adam. Is she losing her grip? Meanwhile, Krystle receives a disturbing telephone call and Claudia is the victim of a cruel practical joke (Cee-fax).
- 9.05 Women. Terry Wogan's guests this week are Charles Dance, Dr Miriam Stoppard, Frankie Goes to Hollywood and Mari Caine.
- 9.55 News and Sport. With Jan Leeming.
- 10.10 Match of the Day Special. Jimmy Hill presents highlights from two of this afternoon's First Division matches; and David Vine is at the International Show Jumping at Olympia for the Radio Rentals Puissance.
- 11.50 Film: Ulysses' Raid (1972) starring Burt Lancaster and Bruce Davison as, respectively, Moloch, an ageing scout and Gernot DeSail, an idealistic young cavalry officer on the trail of a band of renegade Apaches led by the fearless Ulysses, who have broken out of an Indian reservation and embarked on an orgy of murder and torture. Directed by Robert Aldrich.
- 1.30 Weather.

- Radio 4**
- On long wave, 1 stereo on VHF.
- 5.55 Shipping.
- 6.00 News Briefing: Weather.
- 6.10 Prekide.
- 6.30 News; Farming Today.
- 6.55 Prayer. 6.55 News: Travel.
- 7.00 News. 7.10 Today's Papers. 7.15 On Your Farm. 7.45 In Perspective. 7.50 Down To Earth. 7.55 Weather. 8.00 Today's Papers. 8.15 Sport on 4.
- 8.45 Yesterday in Parliament. 8.57 Weather. 8.59 News. 9.00 Profile. Jack Higgins talks about his latest adventure as a writer.
- 9.50 News. 10.00 News. 10.05 The Week in Westminster. With Peter R. 10.10 Pick of the Week. With Margaret Howard (1).
- 1.30 From Our Own Correspondent. 2.00 News. 2.05 News. With Louise Botting.
- 2.27 The New Year. With Simon Hoggart, Alan Coren, Geoffrey Davies and Jay Nagelski. 12.55 Weather.
- 1.00 News.
- 1.10 Any Questions? 1.55 Shipping. 2.00 News. The Afternoon Play: The Journal of Veselko Bogdanovich by Alan Plater. Football story, about a Yugoslav international playing for an English club. With Sander Elm.
- 3.00 News. The Burdick Way (Lesson 4).
- 3.30 Of Ice and Man: The Story of the British Antarctic Survey. With Sir Vivian Finch.
- 4.15 The Ship Shop. New technology and its impact. With Barry Norman.
- 4.45 Keep Your Tails Up. A modern day Canterbury Tale, with Vincent Kane.
- 5.00 Wildlife.
- 5.25 Week Ending. Satirical review. 6.00 News. Sports Round-up. 6.25 Desert Island Discs. 6.50 News. 7.00 News. 7.05 News. 7.10 News. 7.15 News. 7.20 News. 7.25 News. 7.30 News. 7.35 News. 7.40 News. 7.45 News. 7.50 News. 7.55 News. 8.00 News. 8.05 News. 8.10 News. 8.15 News. 8.20 News. 8.25 News. 8.30 News. 8.35 News. 8.40 News. 8.45 News. 8.50 News. 8.55 News. 9.00 News. 9.05 News. 9.10 News. 9.15 News. 9.20 News. 9.25 News. 9.30 News. 9.35 News. 9.40 News. 9.45 News. 9.50 News. 9.55 News. 10.00 News. 10.05 News. 10.10 News. 10.15 News. 10.20 News. 10.25 News. 10.30 News. 10.35 News. 10.40 News. 10.45 News. 10.50 News. 10.55 News. 11.00 News. 11.05 News. 11.10 News. 11.15 News. 11.20 News. 11.25 News. 11.30 News. 11.35 News. 11.40 News. 11.45 News. 11.50 News. 11.55 News. 12.00 News. 12.05 News. 12.10 News. 12.15 News. 12.20 News. 12.25 News. 12.30 News. 12.35 News. 12.40 News. 12.45 News. 12.50 News. 12.55 News. 1.00 News. 1.05 News. 1.10 News. 1.15 News. 1.20 News. 1.25 News. 1.30 News. 1.35 News. 1.40 News. 1.45 News. 1.50 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## Stores to cease Sunday trading

By Derek Harris  
Commercial Editor

About 70 do-it-yourself stores operated by Woolworth's B & Q chain, and 20 Do-It-All shops owned by W H Smith, are stopping Sunday opening.

Another three chains - Marley's Payless, Texas Homecare, which part of Home Charm, and Wickes - said yesterday they were "considering the position."

However, J. Sainsbury, 13 of whose Homebase stores open on Sunday is not changing its opening policy.

The decision by B & Q and Do-It-All to close on Sunday from this week comes after the Prime Minister's warning that the law should be obeyed until the Government and Parliament decide on the Auld Committee's recommendations that Sunday trading restrictions should be lifted.

It was after Mrs Thatcher's remarks that Debenhams, the department store group, and Sir Terence Conran's Habitat chain withdrew plans to open on Sundays.

Closures of do-it-yourself shops will mean job losses, mainly for part-time workers and a cut in overtime pay.

Woolworth said it had decided to cease Sunday opening "in the light of this week's events." The decision also affects the Sunday opening of a handful of Woolworth and Comet stores. Only 30 of B & Q's main outlets in England and Wales have not been opening on Sundays.

About half of Do-it-all stores have been opening, Texas has about a quarter of its 130 outlets open on Sundays.

Payless about half of its 58 outlets, and Wickes about 20. J. Sainsbury, which now has 23 Homebase centres, said: "Nothing has happened for us to change our policy set up three years ago." In areas where local authorities had requested a Homebase not to trade Sainsbury had complied, said the company.

One question so far unanswered is whether this week's developments will lead to local authorities stepping up action to stop Sunday trading by the big chains, which decide to remain open.

## Front student faces college hearing



Protesters being held back by police outside the Polytechnic of North London yesterday as Mr Patrick Harrington, right, arrives at the college. (Photographs: Martin Mayer)

A private disciplinary hearing against Mr Patrick Harrington, the National Front activist at the centre of continuing disturbances at the Polytechnic of North London, went ahead yesterday amid further picketing.

College authorities would give no details of the hearing, which lasted more than an hour. But Mr Harrington's lawyer, Miss Tessa Senk, said: "The interview proceeded in a very fair way. It was quite a reasonable discussion and I would have no criticisms of today's events."

Mr Harrington was interviewed by his head of department and Dr David MacDowell, the polytechnic director who opted for early retirement after clashing with leaders of the Inner London Education Authority over his handling of the case.

Judgment on charges that Mr Harrington broke the polytechnic's disciplinary code by making racist remarks in a television interview will be delivered by Wednesday.

Mr Harrington was confronted by about 150 demonstrators when he arrived for his final lecture of the term.

## Poll failure worries Labour

By Philip Webster, Political Reporter

The Labour Party's failure to profit from the Government's unpopularity in the Enfield Southgate by-election is causing continuing anxiety among senior party members and led to renewed claims from the Liberal Social Democrat Alliance yesterday that it had become the effective opposition to the Tories.

The poll, in which Mr Michael Portillo, the Conservative, was returned with a majority of 4,711, followed the trend of recent by-elections with the Alliance reaping the benefit of voter dissatisfaction with the governing party and the candidate, Mr Tim Slack, gaining 35 per cent of the vote.

Labour's lost deposit was not a surprise, for it had become obvious from an early stage that many of Mr Portillo's natural supporters were moving behind the Alliance.

Mr Neil Kinnock summed up the party's dilemma when he admitted that the result was disappointing but not really

surprising. "Obviously people wanting to protest against Thatcherism thought they could do so by voting for the nearest thing to the Tories or by staying at home."

Despite the sharp fall in the Tory majority, from 15,799 at the 1983 election, there was relief among ministers that had not been even smaller after a month of upsets over the Government's handling of overseas aid, student grants, local government and pensions.

Mr John Gummer, the party chairman, described it as a good result.

Mr David Steel, the Liberal leader, said: "The long term significance is that we have edged Labour out of the way and are challenging the Tories."

Dr David Owen, the SDP leader, published figures showing that in the seven by-elections since the general election the Alliance had polled nearly 37 per cent, the Tories 35.5 per cent and Labour 27.5 per cent.

Enfield Southgate

Portillo, M. (Cons)	15,884
Slack, T. (Lab)	11,973
Hamid, W. F. (Lab)	4,000
Weiss, G. (Liberal Social Democrat)	48
Polley, A. (Liberal Social Democrat)	80
Burgess, L. (Liberal Social Democrat)	587
Restor, R. (Liberal Social Democrat)	50
Shaw, R. E. (Liberal Social Democrat)	78
Shaw, R. E. (Liberal Social Democrat)	45
Off Roads, Freight On Rail	45
Majority	4,711

	1984	1983	Change
Cons	48.8	58.1	-9.3
Lab	35.5	23.4	+12.1
Lib	11.8	17.5	-5.7

Portillo	51	68.5
Slack	35.5	55.5
Hamid	35.5	55.5
Hamid	35.5	55.5

## Gorbachov breaks ice with visit to London

Continued from page 1

The Gorbachov-Shultz talks held out the hope of arms control agreements, and Mr Gorbachov's visit was "an important opportunity to increase mutual understanding."

Sir Ian said he did not accept the terms "freeze" and "thaw". He had found on arrival two years ago that official exchanges were "much reduced" compared to the 1970s, but dialogue with Moscow had never ceased.

"Returning to Moscow, I felt that the process of reciprocal exchange had gone to far. It was right to respond forcefully to Soviet actions, but one needed effective forums in which to convey the message."

Britain also had to explore Soviet attitudes at a time of leadership changes and "to demonstrate to the Soviet people that we are not the inimical stereotypes portrayed in Krokodil (a Soviet magazine) cartoons."

Sir Ian said he fully agreed with Mr Shultz's remark in Los Angeles in October that the West had to stick to a long term strategy, and "sudden shifts of policy" stemming from understandable emotional reactions to Soviet behaviour were not the best way to pursue Western interests.

"There has been an increasing realization - perhaps accepted earlier in London and other European capitals than in Washington - that when the Soviet Union acts in a way we find objectionable it may not always make sense to have off negotiations or suspend agreements."

The Ambassador, who has reinvented cultural and commercial ties in the past two years, denies that the Soviet market was being neglected. This year there had been visits by the Minister of Trade, the President of the Confederation of British Industry, the Governor of the Bank of England, several senior businessmen and local chambers of commerce, as well as Lord Jellicoe, president of the Overseas Trade Board.

"No, the British have been pushing very hard. Where we do lag behind is in volume of trade." Britain had been first among Western exporters to Russia in 1950, but had slipped to fourth in 1968 and ninth last year (1983).

## Letter from Bhopal

## A frantic clamour spoiling the view

From their comfortable place of confinement the two prisoners had a marvellous view of the old city by the lake, the faded grandeur of Mogul architecture, the minarets of the splendid mosque. They could sense, even if they could not hear, Bhopal's distant clamour, a clamour that has become more urgent and frantic.

The two prisoners were the managing director and the chairman of the Union Carbide plant. Until they were released on bail last night they were held, on charges of negligence, in their company's own magnificent hilltop villa.

But there was a melancholy contemplation of the dramatic view. Indeed, one of them said, just before his arrest: "I cannot see anything beautiful now."

On the roads out of the city, snaking across the landscape of dull pink rock, the people move in a relentless flow. It is impossible to say how many have left.

The newspapers talk of a lakh - a hundred thousand - or even two lakhs, but no one can be sure, just as we cannot be sure about the number who died in the gas leak 12 days ago.

The official figure is 1,300, but newspapers, which have done their own tallying, talk of 2,000. And there are some serious people who say the total is much more than that.

The Great Bhopal exodus has become a remarkable migration, a unique shifting of population. The wish to leave has become a contagion.

It means nothing that the Chief Minister of the state and others in authority have said there is no reason to panic, no need to evacuate. People do not trust these high-ranking public servants any more. They do not trust technology.

Tomorrow the experts, the chemical engineers and others will start the process of making safe the remaining 15 tonnes of MIC gas that devastated the city.

When the Chief Minister went on the radio and talked of the coming few days as "a moment of truth", and

suggested that everyone should "leave it to God to tend to his flock", the people were not much comforted.

After all, they reckoned, neither God, nor government, had saved them during the night of December 3. So they have been packing their bags and bundles and piling on to buses, trains, cars and cars.

They were not much impressed, either, by the Chief Minister's pledge that during the operation to make it safe he would be at the plant, like some cooing canary, to demonstrate his confidence. An act of faith, he says, not of bravado.

The exodus is another chapter in a terrible tale that has been, in its inevitability, a true tragedy.

It was a mistake to build such a plant with its deadly and not well-understood chemicals so close to a teeming city. It was wrong to allow people, drawn from the countryside by Bhopal's economic growth, to set up their colonies of rough houses so close to the factory gates.

Most people did not know there was any risk. Those who did know expected government, and the masters of technology to protect them.

Those who knew and understood what was going on, who saw that equipment and maintenance procedures were inadequate, sounded warnings. But these were ignored. It is not only in India that people with environmental concerns inspire only the impatience of robust industrialists and public servants.

In the end, it seems, low-grade workers were left with the responsibility of stopping the gas from escaping. They panicked and ran. People and the fail-safe systems failed.

The dead are burnt and buried, the community devastated, and more than a hundred thousand people have been left in varying degrees of pain, their lungs contaminated, and no one knows what the gas will do to them over the years. Bhopal will become the centre of medical research and monitoring on a large scale.

Trevor Fishlock

## THE TIMES INFORMATION SERVICE

### Today's events

New exhibition  
Drawings by Pierre Bonnard; City Museum and Art Gallery, Queens Rd, Bristol; Mon to Sat 10 to 5 (ends Jan 27).

### Last chance to see

Buckinghamshire Crafts; Milton Keynes Exhibition Gallery, 555 Silbury Boulevard, Central Milton Keynes, 10 to 5.  
Thomas Hamilton, Architect.

**Solution of Puzzle No 16,606**  
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